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**THE PURCHASE SYSTEM IN THE ARMY.**

An abuse, when generally felt and admitted, is in a fair way to be reformed. That is the case now with the purchase system in the British Army; and were it not for "vested interests," which have something to say for themselves, and certain other interests that have no right to be considered at all, we should speedily see the beginning of the end of that excrescence upon a valuable and valued institution. All who have considered the matter, and have had opportunities of watching the operation of the purchase system, condemn it, and yet no practical step has, so far, been taken towards its abolition. Hence it follows that a little more ventilation of the subject is necessary. Those who would have our military system reformed in a thorough and efficient manner, must keep "pegging away" till public attention is sufficiently aroused to secure the application of that "pressure from without" which is necessary in this country to the accomplishment of any work of reform. And the present time, when Army organisation is occupying so prominent a place in public attention throughout Europe, and

when the paucity in numbers and the inferior character of the recruits obtained for our Army have caused so much alarm, is an appropriate season in which to urge those changes which we, in common with others better qualified to judge, deem needful to place our military forces on a thoroughly satisfactory footing.

The purchase system is, in our opinion, the source of all the defects and disadvantages under which our Army labours; and in this view we are fortified by the opinions of men thoroughly conversant with the subject, and to whose reasoning we are bound to pay the utmost deference. Lord Clyde, Lord West, General Franks, Sir Charles Trevelyan, and nearly all the witnesses examined by the Royal Commission which inquired into the subject a short time ago, concur in condemning the purchase system as bad both in theory and practice. Indeed, it is impossible to conceive that any nation, if engaged in organising an army *ab initio*, would dream of adopting such an absurd plan of officering it; nor would it ever have obtained a footing even in this country had it not grown up by almost imperceptible degrees under the fostering care of a governing

oligarchy which selfishly thought more of class advantages than of the interests of the whole community. We can understand an army being officered, in right of birth, by the scions of aristocracy, who in war, more than in anything else, are the natural and traditional leaders of the people; but that men should attain to positions of honour and trust by mere money influence—by the extent of the means they possess of buying their way upward—is repugnant alike to reason, to policy, and to common-sense. Such a system must of necessity furnish bad officers; and it most assuredly leaves us a choice among the worst materials only for our petty officers and rank and file. And moreover, it must—and does—engender a pernicious state of feeling and relations throughout every grade of the service.

As we have said, the purchase system furnishes bad officers; and hence the point of the sarcasm that in the Crimean War the British Army consisted of "lions led by asses." It must result in this: it is impossible it can be otherwise. Because, under it, men enter the Army who have no special vocation for a military life; who do not mean to make a career for themselves in



SCENE FROM "ROB ROY," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE; ARREST OF THE FREEBOOTER.

its ranks ; who have no desire to win name, fame, and position by the services they can render their country there. The great bulk of those gentlemen—scions of wealthy families—who enter the Army by purchase, and who get promoted by purchase, are not soldiers in any proper sense of the word. They are not in earnest in adopting this as their life's occupation. They are merely fashionable dawdlers, most of them, who wish to spend a few years in agreeable society, to obtain social rank, and gain the right to attach a handle to their names. They desire to be captains once in order that they may be captains always. A knowledge of the science of war and a mastery of the details of professional duty ought to be possessed by all who aspire to hold commissions in their country's service ; in other words, men who undertake certain duties should make themselves competent to perform them. But this "promotion by purchase" tends directly to discourage. A man who has money, and knows that he can buy a step whenever he wishes, has no need of skill ; he is independent of it—it is not necessary to his advancement—and therefore he will not take pains to acquire so superfluous a qualification. And he deters others, less favoured by fortune than himself, from striving to fit themselves for command by making them feel that their efforts will be of no use. Skill without wealth has no chance against wealth even without skill ; and so men, who would otherwise devote themselves to the task of acquiring the knowledge necessary to make good officers, either eschew the Army as a profession altogether or are tempted to remain idle and ignorant when they see that industry and intelligence avail them nothing in competition with weight of purse. The purchase system, in short, shuts the ranks of the Army to men of education, industry, and merit, but who lack fortune ; and who, consequently, seek other spheres in which to carve out careers for themselves : whereby the country loses the services of the very men who would make the Army a really and thoroughly efficient institution and take away the reproach that we English never are prepared for war when it comes upon us. Indeed, when war comes, the purchase system breaks down altogether, and leaves us completely in the lurch. In the presence of active service in the field, when privation, fatigue, danger, wounds, and death must be faced, your warriors of the drawing-room, your "knights on carpet consideration," naturally retire—if they can ; these were not the things they contemplated when they joined. But how are their places to be supplied ? Of course, they wish to sell out ; but, unluckily, nobody will buy in just then. Men may be willing—we rejoice to say that in this country men always are willing—to serve their country on fair terms, and to encounter all the risks incident to the duties they undertake. But it is not fair, it is not reasonable, to ask them to pay for the privilege of being shot at, of being maimed or killed, within a few days of depositing their money. There is no compensation provided for them in that case ; and so they will not risk—you cannot expect them to risk—life and fortune both.

Upon what must you then fall back ? Upon inexperienced cadets from the military schools—good materials, generally, but as yet unformed ; upon poor and gallant but untrained gentlemen, who would have made good officers had you accepted their services in time ; and upon such non-commissioned officers as may be deemed capable of discharging commissioned officers' duties. A resource, this last, which should, and might, have been the best conceivable ; but which the pernicious purchase system has all but utterly destroyed. It is difficult, we are told on the best authority, to get men into the ranks from amongst whom good non-commissioned officers can be selected ; and, of course, it must be still more difficult to draw good officers from a body of bad non-commissioned subordinates. And hence it is that our army is never prepared for war ; that we have, in fact, to train our officers while in front of the enemy.

Then the purchase system induces an unhealthy state of things in the Army, even in time of peace. There is a want of harmony and community of sentiment among the various grades in the service. There is little direct communication, and next to no kindness of feeling, between the highest and the lowest ranks. Officers do not know their men—it is beneath the dignity of your "promotion by purchase" gentry to do so ; and men do not know their officers—they are not allowed to come near enough for that. While the connecting link between the two extremes—the non-commissioned officers—are disliked and distrusted as tyrants on the one side, and despised as uncultivated boors on the other. This state of things has a most baleful influence on the service, and tends to prevent all improvement. Says Sir Charles Trevelyan, in his admirable pamphlet, just published, entitled "The Purchase System in the British Army":—"A general desire exists to raise the Army in the scale of professions, to make its ranks attractive to a better class of men, and to increase its inducements to self-improvement and good conduct ; but these natural and wholesome aspirations are repelled by the purchase system, which has built up a wall of separation between the officers and men." Common-sense, then, will at once suggest that the true policy to pursue will be to abolish the purchase system, and so break down that pernicious "wall of separation." Open up the Army ; put commissions within reach of all men who qualify themselves to discharge the attendant duties ; let there be no bar to promotion save incapacity, and no aid save merit and service : in short, make the Army an arena in which enterprising men from all classes of society can make a career for themselves, and aspire to win the highest prizes. All difficulties as to recruiting, and officering, and organising the Army will then cease, and we shall have a force

at once worthy of the nation and on which the nation may rely for defence in all emergencies that may arise. In the words of Sir Charles Trevelyan, in another part of the pamphlet already mentioned, "If, by an alteration of the principle upon which the Army is constituted, the service can be made popular and attractive to all classes of the community, the recruiting difficulty will disappear, and it will only remain to determine the conditions under which trained men shall be transferred from the regular Army to the army of reserve."

We must here leave the subject for the present ; but there are other and important points yet untouched which may claim attention on a future occasion.

#### "ROB ROY," AT DRURY-LANE THEATRE.

OUR "Theatrical Lounger" last week said all that need be said about the revival of "Rob Roy" at Drury-Lane Theatre. We this week publish an Engraving illustrative of the scene of the redoubt able freebooter's capture. Those who have seen the drama at Drury Lane, will at once recognise the scene ; those who have not, will do well to "give themselves that pleasure" as soon as possible.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

The interest in every subject, social and political, is for the moment overshadowed in France by that connected with the reported cession of Luxembourg by Holland to France, and the opposition to the transaction by Prussia. The negotiations between France and Prussia are, it is said, still going on, and the prevalent feeling in Paris is that they may possibly lead to war.

The Empress has been indisposed, and certain Court festivities which were to have taken place this week have consequently been postponed.

Count Walewski has resigned the presidency of the Corps Législatif, in consequence of dissensions with the Ministers, and has been raised to the dignity of Senator. It is stated that the decree nominating M. Schneider to the presidency of the Legislative Body has been signed by the Emperor.

#### SPAIN.

The new Congress assembled on Saturday last for the first time, when Marshal Narvaez read a Royal decree declaring the session to be formally opened. Senor Belda was elected President by 181 out of 201 votes. A committee was appointed to draw up a bill of indemnity for the Government.

#### ITALY.

The *Italie* of Wednesday evening says :—"Reports are in general circulation that the whole of the Ministry have sent in their resignations. We believe, however, that nothing definitive is yet settled."

The same paper also says that it has received intelligence to the effect that the Porte had refused to cede Candia to Greece.

#### GERMANY.

Manifestations of public opinion, provoked by the Luxembourg question, are about to take place in Bavaria against any foreign encroachments upon German territory. The promoters of these demonstrations intend to pass resolutions to the effect that the Bavarian people would consider any weakness on the part of Prussia in this question as equivalent to consenting to the sale of the duchy. Information has been received here from the Hague that the King of Holland has relinquished the proposed cession of Luxembourg to France, and that Count van Zuylen, the Dutch Minister for Foreign Affairs, has communicated the resolution to the French Minister at the Hague.

Count Bismarck made an important statement in the North German Parliament on Wednesday. A debate was in progress in reference to the term of military service, which it was proposed by some members should be reduced to two years. This was opposed by General von Moltke, who declared that the Prussian victories were due to the better discipline consequent on the three years' service. Herr Kryger, a Dane, brought forward an amendment with a view of exempting North Schleswig from military service until the people there had voted on their future destiny. This brought up Count Bismarck, who warned the North Schleswigers to take care what they did. "All North Schleswigers," said he, "are Prussians, and they must obey the Prussian laws. They will have to bear the consequences of any violation of those laws until a vote has been taken in the North Schleswig districts." One is curious to know when that vote will be taken.

#### HUNGARY.

Count Andrassy has brought into the Diet, on the part of the Government, a bill regulating the recruiting system of the army. The following are its principal features :—The term of service to be six years ; the provisions of the bill to extend to present recruits ; the conscription to be carried out by lot ; exemption by purchase to be abolished, but soldiers to be allowed to be replaced by procuring substitutes ; no recruits to be enrolled in other than Hungarian regiments.

#### CRETE.

Intelligence from a Greek source states that two fresh encounters have taken place in Crete, resulting in favour of the Christians. The Cretan Assembly had decreed political equality and respect for the religion and property of the Mussulmans.

#### THE UNITED STATES.

Through the Atlantic cable we have intelligence from New York to the 3rd inst.

Congress had adjourned until July 3, and, if no quorum be formed on that day, then it is to stand further adjourned until Dec. 2.

The President had transmitted to the House a report from Mr. Seward announcing that the correspondence relative to the arrest and imprisonment of American citizens on British territory is still in progress, and that the publication thereof is at present, therefore, incompatible with the public interest.

The House of Representatives had ordered an inquiry into the question of the claims of citizens of the United States against Great Britain, arising out of the depredations of the Alabama and other Confederate vessels.

Congress had passed a bill instructing the Secretary for War to issue supplies of food through the Freedmen's Bureau to the destitute people of the South, provided the sum expended in so doing does not exceed the present appropriation for the bureau. The Senate had passed a bill suspending the payments to loyal owners for slaves enlisted during the war.

The New York State Assembly had rejected an amendment of the franchise law allowing negroes to vote for delegates to the State Constitutional Convention.

The Irish had celebrated St. Patrick's Day with great enthusiasm throughout the country, and numerous Fenian organisations paraded the public streets. The members of the Hibernian Society of New York attacked a carman whose cart impeded the procession. The police interfered and protected the carman, and a serious fight ensued. The Irish, using swords and clubs, were enabled to overpower the police, nearly killing three of their number and seriously wounding twenty others.

SOME ENGLISH ENGINEERS have been, during the past winter, studying the pass over Mount St. Gothard, with a view of establishing a railway across it. According to their report, the line could be completed in five years ; it would be 400 metre above the level of the one first projected, and would cost five millions less. The longest tunnel would be six kilometres (five eighths of a mile each). These gentlemen were sent out by Mr. Fowler, the engineer of the Metropolitan Railway of London.

#### THE LUXEMBURG QUESTION.

IN Monday's sitting of the North German Parliament Herr von Bennigsen rose to question the Government relative to the rumoured cession of the grand duchy of Luxembourg to France, Count Bismarck having previously announced his readiness to give an immediate reply to the interpellation. Herr von Bennigsen said :—

A disquieting rumour is current that Germany is to lose Luxembourg, a birthplace of German princes ; and Parliament wished to learn what attitude the Governments of the Confederation intend to adopt in the matter. The question is here of a federal German fortress and of a German frontier territory, with an essentially German population, which never dreamt of wishing to become French.

The speaker then read a letter from Luxembourg, which was described as a cry of distress to the Parliament, and in which it was asserted that out of 200,000 inhabitants there were not 200 whose language was other than German. Herr von Bennigsen then continued as follows :—

Before this question all party differences disappear. When the integrity of Germany is threatened all parties will unite and support the Minister-President against foreign Powers to the utmost. We wish for peace, but will not shrink from war if it be necessary to repel the very first attempt of France to attack our honour. Let us give a speedy and resolute answer to the warlike tendencies of France, and we shall stifle them in the bud ; to be silent would be weakness. The promise given by the King that not even a German village shall be lost is preserved by the people in grateful remembrance. Let him call upon them, and he will find that they are one. The work of the new Constitution can be concluded within a few days if foreign intervention threatens. We do not seek war, and if it break out let France be answerable. The German and the French nations could live side by side in peace and prosperity, whereas war would inflict deep wounds ; but if France attempt to hinder the work of our reconstruction we will show her that Germany is united.

Count Bismarck, in reply, said :—

By the dissolution of the old Confederation the King of Holland acquired full Sovereign rights over Luxembourg. There prevails in the grand duchy a disinclination to enter the North German Confederacy, on account of the military burdens that step would entail. In the higher and highest circles a bad feeling is entertained with regard to the victories of Prussia ; and in a despatch addressed to the Prussian Government last October Holland demanded the evacuation of the fortress of Luxembourg. The Government, not wishing to have foreign Princes in the northern confederation, has not put any pressure upon the Netherlands. Prussia values amicable relations with France, and has respected her susceptibilities so far as was consistent with her own honour. The Prussian Government does not adopt the opinion that an arrangement has been entered into between Holland and France ; but cannot, on the other hand, assert that the contrary is the case. The question was first officially brought forward by a communication made by the King of Holland to the Prussian Ambassador, asking what position Prussia would take up in case his Majesty should in any way cede his Sovereign rights over the duchy. In reply, Prussia declared that she would leave the responsibility of such a step to the King of Holland. So far as Prussia is concerned, there is no reason to make any declaration on the subject. Prussia will assure herself of the views entertained by the Powers which signed with her the Treaty of 1839 and by her Federal allies, as well as of the state of public opinion as represented by the North German Parliament. Holland has offered her good offices to further negotiations between France and Prussia, but they have been declined. Count Bismarck went on to declare that he was prevented from giving any further explanations by the nature of the affair, and concluded as follows :—

The North German Federal Governments believe that no foreign Power will endanger the undoubted rights of Germany ; and they hope to protect those rights more safely by peaceful means, and preserve good relations with foreign Powers the more the debates in Parliament shall show the inseparable tie that exists between the Government and the people.

The *Paris Moniteur du Soir* publishes the following remarks upon the questions addressed to Count Bismarck by Herr von Bennigsen in the North German Parliament :—

These questions, which might have had an unpleasant result in the present condition of Europe, leave upon us, on the whole, a favourable impression. Although several of Herr von Bennigsen's assertions might be seriously disputed, he has plainly admitted how desirable is the maintenance of relations of cordiality and good-neighbourhood between the German and French nations, and how disastrous would be a war between the two countries. Count Bismarck pointed out in dignified language the necessity that Germany should take the just susceptibilities of France into account, and also made several important declarations. He admitted that Luxembourg was an independent State, of which the King of Holland could dispose, in the exercise of his Sovereign rights, and upon his own responsibility. He did not attempt to contest the indubitable fact that the inhabitants of the duchy of Luxembourg experienced a strong repugnance to being incorporated with Germany, and he insisted, lastly, upon the influence which the desire of maintaining pacific and friendly relations with its powerful neighbour must exercise upon the policy of the Prussian Government.

#### OPENING OF THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

The Universal Exhibition for 1867 was opened in Paris on Monday.

The opening ceremony was of the simplest imaginable description. The Emperor and Empress drove to the building in an open calèche, and in their calèche passed under the green canopy to the main doorway, where they were met by the Imperial Commission, headed by M. Le Play. All officials not in uniform were in evening dress. The Emperor wore evening dress, with the grand cordon of the Legion ; and the Empress a purple satin train—which, by the way, was colourless with dust before her Majesty had accomplished the tour of the machinery gallery. The beautiful weather gave a lively air to the scene. The Exhibition derived all the advantage it was possible to derive from weather ; but the unfinished places obstructed their unsightly cases everywhere upon the eye. The great functionaries of state attended, covered with decorations ; the Fine-Art Galleries were filled with ladies in brilliant toilettes ; there were plenty of strange figures—Persians, Egyptians, Japanese, and Chinamen ; the Academicians appeared in their green embroidered coats ; red coats were to be seen at the English staircase commanding a few sappers ; and the Imperial progress round the building was marked by hearty cheering, especially in the British section. But, with all the spring weather, the brilliant uniforms and dresses, the flags and bands, &c., the opening of the Great Exhibition of 1867 must be described as a very tame affair indeed. On all sides the feeling was against the opening of an unfinished place. It was understood that the Emperor himself went reluctantly through the ceremony. His Majesty appeared with no great company of guests ; he was not even in state apparel. He had been advised that the balance of argument was in favour of a punctual opening, and he yielded—but he wisely abstained from drawing kingly guests to it. In truth, this Exhibition will be, in many respects, beyond compare with any that have preceded it. It is now, however, only a vast undertaking in progress in every part. The Exhibition is in the hands of workmen. The packing-cases lie thick and unopened in many departments. There are exhibiting nations that have not yet received any of their goods. In short, albeit the utmost was done, and cleverly done, to cover the unfinished parts, the impression remains that the ceremony of Monday was merely a form which could not, unfortunately, be avoided. His Majesty, on reaching the part of the gallery where the English Commissioners and conspicuous visitors were grouped, talked for a few minutes with Lord Houghton and Mr. Cole. The British cheers from the crowds in the machinery gallery were vehement, and appeared to delight the Imperial party. The Emperor looked well, but walked heavily, leaning upon a stout stick. There were about sixteen English jurors in the gallery, fronted by six Royal Commissioners, Lord Houghton, Sir William Gordon, the Provost of Edinburgh ; Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A. ; the Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, chief commissioner for Canada ; the Mayor of Limerick, &c. At the foot of the staircase of the gallery, by the English department, were the English sappers and two men-of-war's men of her Majesty's gun-boat Dasher, who are here in charge of the Admiralty models.

In the procession was the venerable Baron James de Rothschild, covered with orders, and followed by a servant carrying a chair.

The French Ministers in the procession were the Ministers of Agriculture and Commerce, the Minister of State, the Prefect of the Seine, the Minister of War, M. le Comte de Nieuwekerke, the Duke of Bassano. The Countess of Aguado was in attendance on the Empress.

The pleasantest impression the Empress carried away from the ceremony was probably the lusty cheers which greeted her as she

issued from the English picture-saloon and passed out to the carriage. An enthusiastic British exhibitor cried, as the Imperial party were passing out of the vestibule, "One cheer more for the Empress!" and the Empress Eugenie departed all smiles.

There were about 37,000 persons present. The number of season-tickets sold is under 8000. Directly the opening ceremony was at an end the crowd began to fade away, and before six o'clock the palace and grounds were quieter than they have been for weeks past.

#### ARMY REFORM.

(From "The Purchase System in the British Army," by Sir Charles E. Trevelyan, K.C.B.)

The basis of every correct army system is the sound old principle of fixing an establishment suited to the wants of the service, and promoting only to vacancies on that establishment. This simple arrangement ascertains the minimum expenditure required to obtain efficient service according to the circumstances of the time, and includes a security against abuse. The only exception that should be made is in favour of conspicuously distinguished service in the field, in case the casualties should not suffice to give the requisite promotion; and, even then, the exception should be a personal one, so as not to add to the permanent expense of the establishment.

In order to guard this fundamental principle, the half-pay list should for the future be confined to its original object of making a provision for reduced and invalided officers. The heavy charge caused by the large number of effective officers on the half-pay list, and the diminished efficiency arising from long intervals of inaction, would thus be avoided, and all regimental vacancies would be filled by promotion in the regiment, without bringing back an officer from the half-pay list.

My remaining proposals are:—

1. That officers who are reduced or invalidated before they have served twenty years should be placed on half pay.

2. That officers who are reduced or invalidated after they have served twenty years on full pay should retain their full pay, reduced officers being brought on again to serve as opportunities offer.

3. That all officers should be at liberty to retire on full pay after thirty years' full-pay service.

4. That officers promoted from the ranks should be permitted to count the whole of their service for their retirement.

5. That an age should be fixed, in reference to each rank, at which officers should retire, as a matter of course, unless for some special reason the Commander-in-Chief should require their services for a further period.

6. That the rank of colonel should be restored to its proper position at the head of the regiment, and that officers should be promoted to it as vacancies occur in the fixed establishment: that the major should become lieutenant-colonels; and that the title of major should be dropped.

7. That suitable consolidated rates of pay should be attached to the four ranks of general officers—field marshal, general, lieutenant-general, and major-general.

8. That there should be an active list of major-generals, with a margin sufficiently large to cover all the probable wants of the service; and a retired list of the same rank, regulated in the same manner as in the case of other officers—that is, after twenty years' actual service, if invalidated; after thirty years' service, at discretion; and after a certain age to be fixed for the purpose, as a matter of course, unless the Commander-in-Chief shall require their services for a further period. And,

9. That the number of general officers of the three superior ranks should be determined by a due regard to the extent to which it is desirable to hold out the highest class of rewards to the Army; and that, as promotion to the rank of lieutenant-general would be partly of the nature of a retirement, it should be made either from the effective or non-effective list of major-generals.

The key of the problem of army reform is to be found in providing proper means of retirement for military officers. As a scheme of admission and promotion, the purchase system is indefensible. As a scheme of retirement, it has been tolerated in the absence of a better. It is true that, after remaining out of his property for many years, at great risk and loss, the retiring officer only gets back his own, and that the purse made up for him is at the expense of his comrades. It is also true that, as usually happens when good service is attempted to be obtained for less than its fair value, the State suffers in a variety of ways for throwing upon its officers the burden of providing for their own retirements. Nevertheless, such as it is, the system enables officers to retire, and quickens the promotion of officers who are able to purchase. Parliament has, with much justice and liberality, relieved the civil servants of the public from having to pay, in the shape of deductions from their salaries, for the allowances awarded to them on their retirement. A similar boon is now proposed to be conferred upon the military servants. The arrangements I have suggested would, I think, meet the requirements of the case. They are based, as far as possible, on actual experience. They comprise three principal stages:—1st, there is a provision for invalided officers; 2ndly, a period of service is proposed to be fixed after which an officer may retire if he thinks proper. There is a time of life at which, without having become inefficient, an officer often feels a craving for rest. The state of his health, the increase of his family, or the circumstance of his having other pursuits, induces a wish to retire; and it is very desirable that he should be able to gratify it, and to leave the field open to those who intend to follow up their profession. Thirdly, an age is proposed to be fixed, in reference to each rank, on the principle which has been already applied to Lieutenant-Colonels in command of regiments, and to officers of various ranks in the civil departments of the Army, at which officers would be placed on the retired list as a matter of course, unless their services should, for particular reasons, be required for a further period. Subject to the prescribed conditions, all these retirements would be without limitation of numbers. This may be safely conceded if the principle of promoting only to vacancies on a fixed establishment be adhered to.

In energy, intelligence, and high and honourable spirit, the British Army leaves hardly anything to be desired; and when to this shall be added the professional training and the professional motives which distinguish the great Continental armies, we shall have every possible guarantee for safety and success.

(From "Army Misrule," by a Common Soldier.)

I would begin by raising the pay and pensions throughout the service. I would then embody a new regiment on this advanced scale of pay. I would fill its ranks from the Volunteers, the Line, and the Militia, admitting only men of good character. Each man's previous service should count; he should be allowed to wear his beard; he should be a stranger evermore to pipeclay; he should not necessarily be compelled to inflict on himself corns by wearing cast-iron regulation boots if he has his own; nor should he be called upon to choke himself at his meals with a regimental stock; his knapsack should be of a different pattern; and the strait-waistcoat kind of uniform should be set aside for one more easy and comfortable. In short, the men in this new regiment should be Frenchified as much as possible. There should be no general assessment of barrack damages, whereby a harmless and inoffensive soldier is incontinently robbed of perhaps the whole of his pay each month. Place at the head of this regiment such a man as the Lieutenant-Colonel of my own corps, who was loved by every man under him; and no less loved by those whom he severely punished than by those who had never been charged with crime before him. But I have heard him say to a brother officer on parade, "Don't worry the men, so-and-so; for God's sake don't worry them." The sound of his nervous footsteps across the barrack square was—and I doubt not still is—always welcome to the soldier.

Let the other officers be picked men, equally well selected. Attach to it, for, say twelve months, the proper complement of non-commissioned officers—sergeants would do—to drill the men. When the men are drilled, and the regiment is up to the standard, send back these sergeants, and permit the men to elect non-commissioned officers. At this stage let an educational test be instituted, which each soldier so elected should be bound to pass before his appoint-

ment is confirmed by the commanding officer. Every subsequent step should have a corresponding educational test more difficult than the last; these tests would give the Horse Guards sufficient control over the regiment. I would also recommend periodical voluntary examinations for privates wishing to qualify for promotion. As vacancies occurred among the first grade of commissioned officers, I would fill their places from the roll of non-commissioned ones—always keeping the regiment in hand, as it were, by the education test. But this test should be clearly defined, for every stage, in a printed book, a copy of which should be given to each recruit. Sergeants should be reduced to the rank of privates, and commissioned officers to the rank of non-commissioned ones, for breaches of discipline. Every man habitually vicious should be drummed out; and, if flogged at all, should be flogged but once, and that as he made his exit. A regiment such as this could be formed in a few months, and I am confident that it would be a credit to itself and to the nation. Its tradesmen should be employed to make its own uniforms—its own boots and shoes; its carpenters, masons, and smiths should do, and be paid for doing, whatever was required to be done in their respective walks. If the plan worked well, the system could be easily extended. For every new regiment embodied an old one might be disembodied, taking the good men into the new and draughting the others into regiments which are now below their strength. It should be understood that any old regiment in which a minimum of crime might be reached within a given time would be then placed on the same footing as the new ones; so that any historical corps, having traditional glories to brag of, might remain intact, adding this additional glory—freedom from crime—to the rest. The commissioned officers would, of course, hold their positions during their lives, promotions from the ranks to take place under the new system as opportunities offered. Thus, as it seems to me, the service might be remodelled, easily, gradually, and safely, and every private in it at present have a motive for good conduct and some prospect of a reward for it. I see no insurmountable objection to my scheme, while I see many and great advantages. If promotion by purchase is to be kept up, keep it up in certain regiments. I don't think the common soldier now, and as things are, cares much whether the man that is over him gets to be so by seniority or by purchase; but what the soldier would like would be the prospect of bettering his own condition; of rising in the service; and of gaining some recognition in it, by obtaining a voice in the selection of those whom he is to serve. By placing on old regiments on the new footing, and thus throwing open the first vacancy, among the commissioned officers, to the ranks below, there would necessarily, and unavoidably, be some interference with the vested interests of men who might have been previously promoted by seniority or by purchase; but this is a very small difficulty. What sweeping change can ever be effected, in any community, without clashing with vested interests of some sort or other? In such a case as this, so small a consideration should not have any weight which might retard the change, or stand in the way of reform. Compensation should be given to all whose interests suffered by the change—compensation in money according to some fixed scale which might easily be determined on. It is estimated that the Chancellor of the Exchequer will, this year, have at his command a million and a half or two millions of money—to what better purpose could it be applied than that of forming a fund for this end? Sooner or later something must be done, and "if 'twere well done when 'tis done, 'twere well it were done quickly."

#### THE AMERICAN IRON-CLAD DUNDERBERG.

A THOROUGHLY practical trial has recently been made of the American iron-war-ship the Dunderberg, which is claimed by the Government at Washington and by the American newspapers to be the most formidable mailed vessel in the world. This ship, which is of the ram class and is armed with a broadside battery of 15-inch Dahlgren guns, was commenced in 1862 and was ready for sea in September last; but it was not until the 22nd of last month that she was sent to sea upon a trip designed to test her sailing qualities and the practicability of handling her guns with efficiency in a heavy sea-way. These guns weigh 20 tons each (42,000 lb.), and during the trial-trip there were six of them in battery. The Dunderberg was built by Mr. William H. Webb, the well-known shipbuilder of New York, and the constructor of the iron-clad Italian frigate Ré d'Italia and the Russian frigate General Admiral. The contract price for the Dunderberg was £270,000, but, owing to the great advance that took place in the cost of material and labour during her construction, her builder expended far more than this sum upon her, and when she was completed requested the Government to award him the additional sum or to permit him to sell the ship to a European Government that stood ready to take her. The Washington Government at first consented to the latter proposition, and the ship was sold to the Power referred to for the enormous sum of three millions of dollars—equivalent to £619,834. But before the transfer was formally made the Government revoked its permission, and decided that, "as the ship was the most formidable war-vessel in the world, she could not be permitted to pass into the control of a foreign nation." The trial-trip was then ordered to be made, and, being wholly successful, the American navy will now receive this important accession to its strength.

The boasts made concerning the Dunderberg may not prove to be wholly true; but certain results were obtained upon her trial-trip that are not without their interest and value to the scientific and naval men of all countries. The voyage lasted twenty-nine hours, and extended fifty miles south of Sandy Hook. No storm was encountered; but at times the sea was heavy enough to afford a good test of the behaviour of the ship by putting her in the trough of the waves. Notwithstanding her great size and weight she was perfectly buoyant, and her rolling was deliberate and regular. She is rigged with double rudders, and at one period of the trial was made to describe a complete circle, which she accomplished in 12½ min., the circle being a mile and a half in circumference, and but one rudder being used. A second trial was made with both rudders, when a half-circle was described in 5½ min. The experiments with the heavy guns were made while the ship was in the trough of the sea, and rolling to a considerable extent. Guns of the calibre of these had often been handled in turrets, but this was the first attempt to use them on a broadside. But notwithstanding their great weight, these immense masses of metal were handled without difficulty, being run in and out the portholes with perfect ease by means of Ericsson's patent gearing. The concussion produced by firing the guns was scarcely perceptible on the gun-deck, but on the upper deck, immediately over the guns, there was a slight shock experienced. Charges of 35 lb. of powder were used, and solid shot and shell fired.

The Dunderberg rises high out of the water, her bow is very sharp, and curves inward, being designed to act as a ram. Her gun-deck, on which are the 15-in. Dahlgrens, is 5 ft. above the water-line. On her upper deck are 11-in. guns fore and aft, for chasing purposes. She has two engines, with cylinders of 100 in. diameter and 45 in. stroke. There are sixty furnaces and eight boilers, with a fire surface of 30,000 square feet in all. The propeller is of brass, 21 ft. in diameter by 27 ft. to 30 ft. pitch, the mean pitch being 28½ ft. The ship made 12½ knots per hour when at her greatest speed, and in coming up the bay upon her return, with a low pressure of steam she ran six measured miles in thirty minutes. There seems no reason to doubt that the vessel can safely and easily cross the Atlantic and fight her broadside guns in ordinarily rough weather.

cession of RUSSIAN AMERICA TO THE UNITED STATES.—The Government of the United States has purchased the whole of Russian America for the sum of seven millions of dollars, less than half it gave France for the State of Louisiana. Russian America not only occupies a large portion of the north-west of the continent, but its coast line includes a long narrow strip of shore which passes through more than five degrees of latitude, and effectually closes British territory, with the exception of British Columbia and Vancouver Island, from the Pacific. The country is exceedingly inclement and unproductive, and the only pursuits which can be followed with any advantage are trapping and fishing.

#### PRINCE MUSTAPHA FAZYL, OF EGYPT.

Now that Egypt is making such rapid advances in European sympathies the prospective Government of that nation becomes a matter of no little importance; and, as the present Viceroy has been principally instrumental in developing these sentiments amongst his countrymen, his probable successor is necessarily a person of remarkable consideration. Prince Mustapha Fazyl Pacha, the brother and heir presumptive of the Viceroy, is the third son of Ibrahim Pacha, and grandson of Mehemet Ali, the illustrious founder of Egyptian independence. Prince Mustapha was born at Cairo, on Feb. 21, 1830, and the care of his education was confided to tutors who developed that sympathy with modern progress which also characterises his brother.

When he became old enough to take the prominent place to which his rank entitled him, he entered life at Constantinople as a simple employé in the bureau of the Sublime Porte. He was then seventeen years old, and at the age of twenty he took his place in the Council of State. Since that time he has occupied the positions of Minister of Public Instruction—where he gave ample proof of his liberal tendencies; of Minister of Finance; and, lastly, President of the Exchequer of the Empire. Everywhere Prince Mustapha has been worthy of the confidence reposed in him by the Sultan, inasmuch as he has never shrunk from pointing out abuses, inaugurating reforms, and instituting such measures as he believed would place the empire in a better position amidst the great European Powers. It is, however, a very difficult task to bring about reform in the East, and the Prince met with obstacles sometimes insurmountable, and at last so obviously nugatory of his efforts, that he tendered his resignation.

Since his retirement, Prince Mustapha has taken up his abode in Paris, where he watches from a distance the progress of events in Turkey, and has just addressed to the Sultan a memorial pointing out the dangers to which his country is exposed, and the causes by which they are created.

#### AN ITALIAN STEAM-BOAT IN THE AUSTRIAN TYROL.

THE town of Riva, on Lake Garda, in that part of the Tyrol which belongs to Austria, is still peopled with a large number of Italians, and every time the steam-boat which touches at the various towns round the lake arrives in due course all the Italian part of the population make their way to the bridge and salute its appearance with acclamations. These manifestations, which are not at present restrained by the authorities, have passed off quietly enough as an expression of remembrance of nationality, and the Austrians have learned to witness the scene without any counter-demonstration, and, indeed, with something like sympathy with people who are not now regarded as enemies and who may well be pardoned for a little home-sickness by those who are themselves so warmly attached to their country. Our Engraving represents the arrival of the steamer at Riva.

**THE DOG TAX.**—The new Act altering the tax on dogs came into effect on the 5th inst. All persons keeping dogs must thereafter be licensed so to do. The notice where such permits are to be obtained must be exhibited on the doors of churches by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, or proceedings taken under the Act are to be invalid. The duty is reduced from 12s. to 7s. per annum. No person is to be charged with a greater amount than £23 2s. for any number of hounds, or £5 5s. for any number of greyhounds, during the year that ends in England on the 5th inst., and in Scotland on May 24; but from the 5th inst. the uniform duty of 6s. per annum will be imposed on taking out a license on every dog. The penalty for keeping a dog without a license, or keeping a greater number than licensed, is to be £5, and the person in whose custody, charge, or possession, or on whose premises any dog "shall be found or seen," is to be deemed keeper of the same unless the contrary be proved. Dogs under the age of six months are not to be liable to the tax.

**THE ANCIENT RECORDS OF THE CORPORATION OF LONDON.**—An important contribution to the history of England is about to be made by the Corporation. At a recent meeting of the Common Council, Mr. J. H. Hale brought up a report from the Library Committee, on the reference of Jan. 23, 1862, on the letter of Mr. H. T. Riley, M.A., recommending that he be engaged to compile a volume of extracts from certain of the Corporation records, at an estimated expense, for 750 copies, of £550, less the amount to be realised by the sale of a portion of that number. Mr. Hale, in moving the adoption of the report, offered an apology to the Court for the delay which had taken place in presenting it to them, and felt that some explanation was required of him in consequence. In January, 1862, it was referred to the committee to consider and report upon the proposition of Mr. Riley as to the publication of extracts of certain Corporation records. The committee did so report, and recommended, not that the Corporation should publish such extracts, but that it should subscribe for a given number if published by other means, no sum being named. The report was, however, referred back to the committee, as not complying with the standing orders. The question was again considered by the committee, and they now recommended that 750 copies should be printed, at an expense say of £550, £300 of which would be the cost of editing, and the remaining £250 would in all probability be repaid by the sale of extra copies. The committee having carefully considered the matter, came to the conclusion that it was highly desirable that these extracts should be published, particularly as the cost would be so small, and that no danger to the Corporation could possibly arise, as it was proposed to refer all extracts to the town clerk and such other of their officers as the committee might think fit. It might be asked what precedent they had for asking the court to do so. In answer to that, he might say that the court gave permission to the Master of the Rolls to publish "Liber Albus," "Liber Horne," &c., and the Camden Society, to publish "Chronicles of London." The great value of these records had been recognised by many writers of eminence, both British and foreign, from Stow, in 1598, to M. Delpit, in 1843. The time comprised in the extracts proposed to be published would extend over a period of nearly 200 years—viz., from Edward I. to Henry VI., whereas the "Liber Albus" extended over only 100 years—viz., from Edward I. to Richard II. And the committee considered that the court would not hesitate to consent to agree to their report, considering the large amount of information that would be given, not only to all its members, but to the general public, who they felt certain would highly appreciate such a boon from the Corporation. In the course of the discussion which followed, Mr. B. B. Orridge said he was of opinion that an historical vindication of the City was as essentially important as a statistical vindication. Any member of the court who would take the trouble to refer to Norton's "Commentaries on the Charters of the City," would see that for centuries precisely the same absurd charges against the City as were now made had been made, without a particle of foundation. He believed that from members of the London Corporation were descended some of the most illustrious men the world ever saw. He entreated the court to publish the historical treasures in their possession, as one of the best means of vindicating the reputation of the Corporation. The report was carried by a large majority.

#### EXCAVATIONS FOR THE FOUNDATION OF ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

We have already published a detailed account of the plan for the new building of St. Thomas's Hospital on an area beyond the Thames Embankment at Lambeth, and our Illustration this week represents the work as it is now being carried on for laying the foundation for the intended edifice.

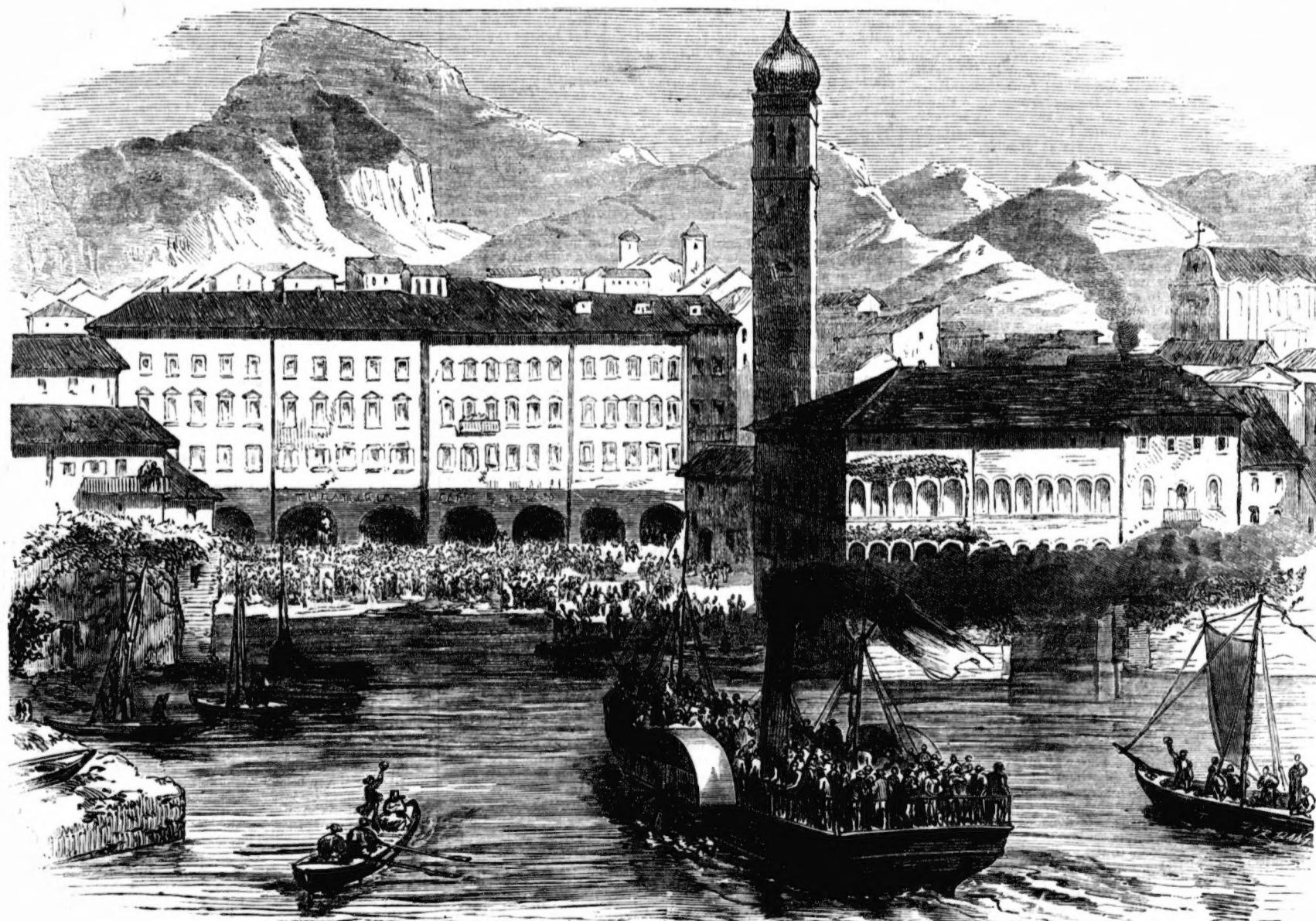
The old hospital, the proposed removal of which has given rise to such continued disputes, had for some time been inadequate to the number of cases taken there for treatment; and the recent alterations of the neighbourhood, together with the inroads made by the extensive railway works, rendered its position altogether unsuitable for the purpose. For a long time no eligible site could be decided on where another and more commodious building could be erected, which, while it secured the necessary privacy and quietude so desirable in a refuge for the sick, should not be so far away as to forfeit its claim to belong to the southern district of London. These conditions have at length been happily combined, and the new St. Thomas's Hospital will worthily succeed the building which was itself raised, as it were, on the ruins of an earlier establishment. For St. Thomas's Hospital has a history of its own, like that of St. Bartholomew, and dates from the period of the priory of St. Mary Overies, which was destroyed by fire in 1207. After this calamity, the canons erected at a small distance an occasional edifice, to answer the same purpose, till their monastery could be rebuilt; which being accomplished, Peter de Rupibus, Bishop of Winchester, "for the greater convenience of air and water," pulled it down in 1215, and erected it in a place where the Prior of

Bermondsey had, two years before, built an almonry, or almshouse, for the reception of indigent children and necessitous proselytes. Having dedicated the new building to St. Thomas the Apostle, the Bishop endowed it with land to the value of £343 per annum; from which time it was held by the Abbot of Bermondsey, and an hospital has continued in the same place ever since. In 1428, one of the Abbots granted the foundation lands to Nicholas Buckland, the master of the hospital; and in that condition they remained, till, at the dissolution of the religious houses in the reign of Henry VIII., this fell with the rest. In 1551, however, the Lord Mayor and citizens, amongst their numerous transactions with Edward VI., purchased the manor of Southwark and its appurtenances from the Crown for the sum of £647 2s. 1d.; and, the hospital going to them as part of the property, they immediately set about repairing and enlarging it, at the expense of about £1100; so that in the same year they received into it 260 poor sick and helpless objects. The liberal charity of the Corporation at that time recognised the truth of the motto which says that that which is done at once is twice done, and they gave the poor the benefit of their bargain by spending on this one charity more than the whole manor had cost them. Two years afterwards the King incorporated a society of persons for its government, in common with the "two other great charities of Bridewell and Christ's Hospital." Though St. Thomas's Hospital escaped the Great Fire, a number of its possessions were destroyed, and two other fires, which happened a few years afterwards, so reduced its endowment that it was almost brought to ruin. The building was old and sadly needed repairs, and the funds were almost exhausted; but the governors were spirited, and in 1699 commenced a voluntary subscription, with large donations from themselves and their friends. The public followed their example, and the late building was begun upon a scale which did the projectors infinite credit, and was gradually completed at different times by the assistance of various benefactors. About 50,000 patients, of whom some 3600 were received within the walls, made up the average yearly number of people to whom its provisions have recently been extended. But it was so built in and surrounded by dwellings, warehouses, and finally by railway works that it could no longer be extended, and the benefits of "air and water," which of old belonged to the locality, were almost denied to its inmates. Once more, therefore, the governors have been compelled to plan a new building, and they have entered into the work with something of the spirit which animated their predecessors. The projected Thames embankment came to their aid, and they have secured a space of ground which, it is hoped, will be well adapted for the requirements of the magnificent structure that has just been commenced. For Lambeth Marsh will, it



MUSTAPHA FAZYL PACHA, BROTHER OF THE VICEROY OF EGYPT.

is believed, soon be a very different place from what it has been within living memory. All that sordid salvage of narrow, low-lying streets beyond the old episcopal palace will, it is hoped, — give way to a new order of things, and the embankment will be nobly supplemented by the hospital. There is a history connected with this spot, also in connection with the old palace and its surroundings, which has been strangely re-suggested by the operations now being carried on for this new work. "When I first went to Lambeth," says Archbishop Laud in his Diary, "my coach-horses and men sunk to the bottom of the Thames in the ferry-boat, which was overladen; but, I praise God for it, I lost neither man nor horse;" and again, on Nov. 15, 1635: "Sunday. At afternoon the greatest tide that hath been seen. It came within my gates, walks, cloisters, and stables at Lambeth." Such, indeed, was the condition of that part of Lambeth between the river and the palace that there was no regular road even for the prelates who went by water, of whom the last was Wake, who died in 1737. For nearly seven centuries has that venerable pile been the residence of the English primates; or if not that very pile, yet since 1250 it has undergone such slow and gradual change that it is as much the same as our own bodies are, and more. Boniface rebuilt it that year, as an expiation for his outrages on the priors of St. Bartholomew's; and there probably still remain in some old nooks and corners the very rings to which the wretched Lollards were chained when Chicheley made the palace a prison; and its tower was named the Lollards' tower. At any rate, the old place could only be reached in one way when the proud prelates went by water, as they all did, and that was by the raised pathway or road from the Stangate. The Stangate, as it was known in our time, was at the foot of old Westminster Bridge, a little above the bridge, and facing the Houses of Parliament; and Stukeley, who calls it Stangate Ferry, traces the old Roman road from Chester to Dover through St. James's Park and Old Palace-yard, to Stangate and Canterbury, and so to the three famous seaports, Rutupiae, Dubris, and Lemanis. Well, there are probably no remains of the Stangate road now, even though the locality may retain the name; but in these very excavations for the new hospital the navvies have just turned up the old causeway, or embankment, which led thence to the Palace of Lambeth—a queer structure enough, built of timber, and finished off with an even path or roadway of small bricks laid on a foundation of wooden planks and beams. It is still to be seen marked on the old maps; but it had long disappeared from the public eye, though it leads directly from the foot of the bridge along the shore. Our Engraving will probably be the last pictorial record of this ancient pathway before it has vanished under the pick and spade.



Demonstration by the people of Riva, Lake Garda, on the arrival of an Italian steamer on coast service.



INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 298.  
AN IRISH SCRIMMAGE.

"If ever you see an unusual number of Irish members in or about the House, do not expect to go home early nor to have a quiet night." This is a maxim held by everybody connected with the House. Early on Friday night week there was an unusual gathering of Irish members of both factions. For a time they did not settle, but were on the wing, humming and buzzing like angry bees on the swarm. When we saw this we immediately looked to the night's programme to discover what this might mean; and, being experienced in such matters, we soon discovered what it was that had summoned this unusual assemblage of Irish members to the House. We found it amongst the "notices of motion on going into Supply," and thus it ran:—"Sir John Gray to ask the Chief Secretary if he has read or had his attention called to the observations reported to have been made by Mr. Justice Keogh, at the Assize Court of the county of Tyrone, on Friday last, with reference to the conduct of certain justices of the peace for that county, and the alleged consequent failure of justice; and whether (to put it shortly) the Irish Government had called or meant to call these certain justices of the peace to account for their misdeeds." This, then, was the notice which, like a trumpet call, had brought down such a number of Irishmen. We were to have a faction fight, we perceived; the Catholics impeaching certain Orange justices; the Orangemen defending the same. And here we may note, what may surprise some of our readers, that the feelings of the Protestants in these religious controversies are far more bitter than those of the Catholics, as everybody who has Parliamentary experience well knows. Perhaps it would not be difficult to account for this; but to do this fully we must write a long essay instead of a short article, and this we have neither time, nor space, nor inclination to do. Perhaps this short sentence may sufficiently account for the phenomenon. The triumphant injurer is always more bitter, as philosophers, who dive down and search into the primary causes of things, tell us, than the suffering injured. And here let us mention another fact worthy of notice. The Protestant Orangemen are almost all Conservatives, and sit, of course, on the Conservative side of the House; whilst the great majority of the Catholic members are massed together on the opposite side, below the gangway, as independent Liberals, generally disposed to act with the Liberal party, whether that party be on the right or left of the Speaker; but still holding themselves at liberty to criticise the policy of the Liberal party quite as freely, and even as fiercely, as they do that of the Conservatives. They are, in short, independent members—that is to say, as Lord Melbourne once wittily observed, "Members whom no one could depend upon." The position of the Roman Catholics in the House is rather curious. Roman Catholicism, or Popery, is generally considered to be the *ne plus ultra* of Toryism, and Protestantism a protest against all tyranny. But here we see Roman Catholicism on the side of freedom, and Protestantism defending dominant power. How is this? Why, simply because Protestantism is dominant and Roman Catholicism is dominated. In other words, the Protestants have, and want to keep; the Catholics have not, and want to have.

SIR JOHN GRAY, KNIGHT.

The leader of the Catholic party on this night was Sir John Gray. If our readers wish to know who and what Sir John Gray is, they will get little knowledge from us. All we know of him is what *Dod* tells us. First, he is chairman of the Dublin waterworks company; and "for his public services in that capacity" the Earl of Carlisle, when Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, knighted him. He is also an M.D., but surely with no practice now; and, last, though not least, he is proprietor and editor of the *Freeman's Journal*, and, as member for Kilkenny, legislator of the British empire. A very versatile man, then, is Sir John Gray. The hon. gentleman first entered the House in 1865; and he had not been there long before he gave us a touch of his quality by making a very long and, in truth, a very wearisome speech. Sir John's speeches may be aptly described as voluminous. This word is commonly supposed to mean "having many volumes;" but the original meaning is "having many coils and complications." It comes from the Latin word *volumen*, a folding. Thus, we say "folds," or the foldings of a snake, or volumes of smoke. The word voluminous, then, exactly describes Sir John's speeches. His speech on this occasion was so voluminous that thrice, as he went on with marvellous ingenuity, unfolding coil after coil of talk, Mr. Speaker, at the suggestion of some impatient member, had to rise and intimate that Sir John was, by travelling too wide, transgressing the rules of debate. These interruptions, however, did not seem to have much effect. They broke the line for a time; but as soon as the Speaker sat down Sir John took up the broken thread, twisting it into a join, as we have seen cotton-spinners do, and went on uncoiling his line till he came to the end of it, or rather, say, till he deemed it right to break off; for it is difficult to imagine that there is really any end to the material, or talking power, of speakers like Sir John.

ORDER! ORDER!

There can be no doubt that when a speaker travels away from the question under debate, or, in other words, speaks irrelevantly, he is out of order. But what is irrelevancy? Ay, that is the question. It is said that once, when an orator was called to order for irrelevancy, he replied, "Irrelevant, am I? I will undertake upon any question to discuss by way of illustration the solar system, and yet be in order;" and no doubt this is possible; and it will have been observed by those who heard or read the debate that Mr. Speaker, when he interrupted Sir John, spoke very cautiously. He would not say that Sir John was out of order, but merely suggested that he was travelling wide of the mark. He was going beyond the boundaries, &c., or "I put it to the honourable member whether his remarks fall at all under the notice given." In short, this question of irrelevancy can never be settled, and it is rarely that Mr. Speaker interrupts a member because his talk is not relevant to the matter in hand. The only way to stop a member who is wandering away from the subject is that rough-and-ready way so often adopted—though certainly itself disorderly—viz., to drown his voice by clamorous cries of "Question, question!" "Oh, oh!" "Divide, divide!" &c. This, as we have said, is altogether disorderly; but, then, what is to be done? If there be no strictly legal and regular mode of putting down a bore, we must adopt an irregular method. Take a case. It is past midnight. There are five hundred members present anxious to divide and go home to bed, when Mr. Whalley suddenly emerges from the crowd, and begins to speak. And he has a right, a strictly legal right, to speak; and Mr. Speaker has no more right to suppress Mr. Whalley than he has to put down the leader of the House. What then? Are the 500 members, all anxious to divide and go to bed, to wait patiently whilst Mr. Whalley, for half an hour—nay, he would talk an hour if you would let him alone—goes on gesticulating and vociferating in his wild and incoherent way? That is not to be thought of; and if there be no legal way of putting him down, we must adopt an illegal plan. "There is no law." Well, then, we must make one. Our judge being powerless, we must call in Judge Lynch.

SIR JOHN GRAY'S SPEECH.

"What sort of a speech did Sir John Gray make?" We cannot tell you. We listened for ten minutes or so; but when we discovered whitherwards he was travelling we confess that we left the House. The general opinion is that he made out a case against "the certain justices;" but that to all but those who, with a patience more patient than Job's, listened to him throughout, his case was lost in a cloud of words.

THE COMBATANTS.

When Sir John sat down the row really began, and for two or three hours more it was as pretty an Irish scrimmage between the Orange and Catholic factions as the most pugnacious of Irishmen could wish to see. Mr. Stuart Knox, of Dungannon, was the first Orange-man who appeared on the field. This is the gentleman whom Bright had some weeks ago to castigate for certain intemperate expressions about the Fenians. After Knox came Lord Claude

Hamilton, the elder. There are now two Lord Claudes in the House: one tall, imposing, and very fiery; the other short, and slim, and quiet. The elder is, we believe, uncle to the younger. Lord Claude, you may be sure, did nothing in the way of promoting peace; for a hotter Irishman—albeit, he is certainly not a pure Hibernian, perhaps scarcely Hibernian at all—than Lord Claude does not live. But if Lord Claude did not do anything to quench the fire, he did not, on this occasion, we must say in justice to him, do much to fan it to a fiercer heat. But little Mr. Sullivan, late Solicitor-General to the Liberal Government—who is Irish to the backbone, as his name and his brogue indicate, and Catholic, too—poured oil upon the flame. To be sure, how the little man did war, and stamp, and gesticulate! At this point we were getting into a white heat. But Lord Naas, the Chief Secretary of Ireland, then rose, and by his calm manner, and quiet, official tone, certainly did somewhat to damp us down. And under the dull, prosy speaking of Vance, the well-timed and pacificatory speech of Mr. Bagwell, who detests these unseemly faction squabbles, and, like Mercutio, would say, "A plague on both your Houses," and much other dull talk acting like a wet blanket, there was hope that the fire would die out.

## EXPLOSION.

But suddenly Sir Henry Edwards rose, and if Mr. Sullivan poured oil upon the fire, Sir Henry threw gunpowder upon the dying embers. "It," said Sir Henry, in effect, "the Fenians have representatives in this House, why should not the Orangemen?" A storm of cheers from the Conservatives greeted this strange utterance: but it was met with such a counterblast of indignant shouts of "Order! order!" that Mr. Speaker had at once to rise, and, in firm and stately manner, to rebuke Sir Henry, and call upon him at once to withdraw his offensive expressions. Sir Henry rose to explain, but promptly Mr. Speaker cut him short. He would allow no explanation. "The honourable member must withdraw the words." Retraction, Sir, not explanation. The irascible gentleman, though, was in no mood to retract; for, on the contrary, instead of retracting he repeated the offence, only changing the word "representatives" for "sympathisers." Whereupon Mr. Esmond (scion, men say, of the house of Esmond which Thackeray has immortalised) rose, and demanded that the words be taken down. But Mr. Speaker once more rose and declared that "sympathisers" was as bad as "representatives," and then went on to show how Fenianism had been declared in the Address to the Throne "to be alike hostile to the Throne, to property, and religion"—was treason, in short—and once more to demand retraction. Here there was a short pause; and then Disraeli, seeing that Sir Henry did not rise, appeared on the scene, like a *deus ex machina*, or god from the clouds, to smooth down the ruffled feathers of the angry Baronet by skilful application of the oil of persuasion and flattery and get Sir Henry to withdraw the objectionable words. And then Sir Henry, charmed by his leader's persuasive and flattering words, complied; and straightway the storm lulled itself into a calm.

## GLADSTONE TRIES TO DRAW DISRAELI.

On Monday evening at the opening of the House there was a crowd of members down. Gladstone was again to catechise Disraeli on the Reform Bill—or, rather, say to put the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the question, and, if possible, to extract information as to the right hon. gentleman's Reform policy. This policy, in that wonderful speech of his made last week, had been only dimly shadowed—so dimly and mysteriously that men knew not what it meant. Some read it one way, some read it another. Mr. Gladstone would drag it forth into the light and have it cleared of all mystery. And all these members had come to see this operation performed. And was it successfully performed? By no means. The wily, inscrutable Chancellor came from behind his cloud, and just showed a bit of his policy, which we all knew before, and then, amidst shouts of laughter, retired behind his cloud again.

## AND LORD CRANBOURNE—LORD STANLEY.

After this small episode we had another. Lord Cranbourne now sits in his old place below the gangway, and, soon as Disraeli had gone back behind his cloud, the noble Lord rose to ask "his noble friend" (Lord Stanley) a question. His "noble friend" had stated that the Government would introduce a bill by which they would stand or fall; would "his noble friend tell the House what are the provisions of the bill by which the Government are prepared to stand or fall?" This was thought to be a poser, and it was loudly cheered by the Opposition. But Lord Stanley was equal to the occasion. Imitating the example of his leader, he, too, declined to answer "till the House should get into Committee." "Can't be droned," you see, as the badger-baiters say. By-the-way, Lord Cranbourne, it is said, is now the leader of a party, called, or to be called, "the Cranbourne-alley party." Some, however, say that Mr. Sandford, late Peacock, is to be the leader, and that it is to be named "Peacock's Tail." "The Cave of Adullam" has still occupants, it is said—Earl Grosvenor, for example, Lord Elcho, Mr. Horsman, Mr. Laing, and some few others of lesser note. Mr. Lowe has left it. He is the leader of another party—to wit, himself and his shadow. Thus you see, readers, we are not without our pleasantries here. Our proper business is to make laws, but we can also make jokes.

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Royal assent was given by commission to several bills. Among them was the British North American Confederation Bill. The dominion of Canada is, therefore, constituted.

There was a short discussion in reference to the militia, but it and the subsequent proceedings were without much interest.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

BUST OF THE LATE MR. HUME.

Lord J. MANNERS stated, in reply to Mr. Ewart, that the bust of the late Joseph Hume, presented by his widow to the House, would shortly be placed in the library.

## THE FONTEVRAULT STATUES.

Lord STANLEY, replying to a question of Mr. Owen Stanley, said that the Emperor of the French, with the courtesy which he had invariably shown to this country, some time since offered the statues of the Plantagenet Kings in the Abbey of Fontevrault to her Majesty, and the offer was accepted. Subsequently, however, information had reached the Government from various quarters that the Emperor, in his anxiety to meet the wishes of the English public, had placed himself in a position of some little difficulty. Legal objections, it appeared, had been taken to the removal; and in the locality where these memorials were preserved, little as had been the care taken of them, a strong feeling existed against it. Under these circumstances, Ministers felt that it could not be the wish of the Queen, the Parliament, or the English people, that any misunderstanding should arise between the Emperor and his subjects on the question; and, without hesitation, they had advised her Majesty at once to relieve the Emperor from his promise, as if it had not been given. This she had done; and, although no answer had yet been received, he assumed that the removal would not take place, and that the matter might be regarded as at an end.

## THE NEW NATIONAL GALLERY.

Mr. GOLDSMID inaugurated a discussion as to the designs for the new National Gallery, which was closed by Lord J. MANNERS, who said as yet the ground on which the structure was to be raised had not come into the possession of the Government, though a bill stood for second reading to enable them to make the purchase. From one cause and another, however, a year and a half must elapse before it could be in their hands. In order that the National Gallery might be so constructed as to be most suitable to the practical requirements for which it was to be erected, he intended to put himself in communication with the trustees, and he hoped that with the assistance of the recommendations contained in the Commissioners' report and those of the trustees, the Government would before long be in a position to advise the adoption of some practicable and sensible course.

## ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN IRELAND.

Sir J. GRAY, in a lengthy speech, brought under the attention of the House an alleged instance of mal-administration of justice in Ireland. At the recent Tyrone Assizes several men were brought up for trial for rioting at Donoughmore. With one exception, they were all Roman Catholics. A constable called as a witness swore that the rioting was caused by the persistence of several Orangemen, who, notwithstanding his endeavours, would march, with colours flying and music playing party tunes, to where the

Roman Catholics were. He identified several of the Orangemen, as well as the Roman Catholics; and they were all brought before the magistrates in petty session at Donoughmore. The magistrates, however, dismissed the aggressors with single exception, and sent the Roman Catholics for trial. Mr. Justice Keogh, who tried the case at Tyrone, elicited these facts from the constable, and then denounced most heartily the conduct of the magistrates, promising to call the attention of the Lord Chancellor to their conduct. Sir J. Gray wanted to know what steps had been taken in the matter. The defence set up by the magistrates was that the Orangemen had not been identified, and that Mr. Justice Keogh, in the observations he made, had been misled by misstatements.

This matter led to a very animated discussion—a regular Irish Protestant-against-Catholic "row," in fact, which lasted several hours.

MONDAY, APRIL 1.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The chief topic of discussion was the possibility of employing soldiers in industrial occupations.

The Duke of CAMBRIDGE said the military authorities were anxious as far as possible to promote such employment; but there were insuperable difficulties in the way, so far as the soldiers in this country were concerned, owing to the constant moving of regiments.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE REFORM BILL.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, replying to an inquiry of Mr. Gladstone, said it was not his intention to lay upon the table the reports from which, on Tuesday last, he quoted the opinions of the present and late chairmen of the Board of Inland Revenue respecting the proposed taxing franchise, in consequence of their being of a strictly informal character. To the question whether the Government intended to make any alteration in the arrangement or the provisions of the Reform Bill before inviting the House to go into Committee on the bill, he intended that evening to lay upon the table a notice that, in Committee of the whole House, he should move the omission of clause 7, relating to the dual vote. With regard to all other controversial points, it was the opinion of the Government that the House itself would in Committee be able to find the best solution; and Ministers would enter into that Committee with the most anxious desire to co-operate with the House in bringing the question of Parliamentary Reform to a speedy and satisfactory settlement.

## THE CESSION OF LUXEMBURG.

Mr. SANDFORD having inquired whether the Foreign Secretary had received any information of the sale of the grand duchy of Luxembourg to the Emperor of the French,

Lord STANLEY replied that in the course of the morning he had received from the Hague a despatch containing the translation of a notice which had appeared in the official organ of the Government of Holland, and which was in these terms:—"We are requested by the Luxembourg Chancellerie to contradict most positively the report that the cession of Luxembourg to France has taken place." The noble Lord added, at the same time, there could be no doubt that communications had been opened between the Government of France and that of Holland with regard to the proposed transfer of the territory; but what was the result of those communications he was not then in a position to inform the House.

## FLOGGING IN THE ARMY.

The House having gone into Committee on the Mutiny Bill, the clause relating to the infliction of corporal punishment became the subject of renewed and somewhat animated discussion. In conformity with the suggestions of several members on the Opposition side of the House, an amended clause was submitted to the Committee by which this punishment could only be imposed in time of peace by a court-martial and upon soldiers of the second class for offences of mutiny or of insubordination accompanied by personal violence, but this proposal was opposed by Sir J. PAKINGTON, and on a division was negatived by 175 votes to 162. A new clause, proposed by Sir J. Pakington, and which would limit the infliction of corporal punishment in time of peace to mutiny and insubordination accompanied by personal violence, but would render all soldiers liable to it for those two offences, was then put and carried without a discussion.

## NAVY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee on the Navy Estimates, and, after a long debate, several votes were agreed to.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Criminal Lunatics Bill was read the second time, on the motion of the Earl of BELMORE, who explained that its object was to provide for and regulate the custody, the maintenance, and discharge of persons detained as criminals during the Royal pleasure.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM stated, in reply to the Earl of Clarendon, that information had that afternoon been received from St. Petersburg confirming the impression that negotiations were on foot for the cession by purchase of the Russian American territory to the United States; but how far those negotiations had progressed, or whether they had arrived at a definitive point, the authorities at St. Petersburg were not aware. Although at first sight it was likely to produce some excitement, he could not believe this cession or purchase would have any overwhelming influence on the British colonies in that part of the world, or in any way affect their progress.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

DISFRANCHISEMENT OF LANCASTER.

Colonel W. PATTEN presented a petition from 1200 persons, inhabitant householders of the borough of Lancaster, and possessing the elective qualification under the Reform Bill, against the proposal to disfranchise that peccant constituency. He also called attention to a petition from the Mayor and Corporation of Lancaster, presented March 14, with a similar prayer; and moved that the petitioners be heard by counsel at the bar of the House. After some discussion the motion was withdrawn.

## BUNHILL-FIELDS BURIAL-GROUND.

Mr. CRAWFORD obtained leave to bring in a bill for the preservation of Bunhill-fields burial-ground as an open space, and for other purposes relating thereto.

## SUNDAY LECTURES AND DISCUSSIONS.

Lord AMBERLEY obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Act 21 Geo. III., chap. 49, for preventing certain abuses and profanations on the Lord's Day, called Sunday. From the explanation with which the noble Lord accompanied his motion it appeared that the bill had risen out of the proceedings which had been taken for putting down the so-called Sunday evening "services" at St. Martin's Hall, and it proposed to repeal so much of the Act as related to the delivery of lectures and the holding of public discussions on Sundays in places where money was paid at the doors for admission.

## EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Mr. DENT called attention to the sixth report of the Children's Employment Commission, and moved a resolution to the effect that the employment of women and children in agriculture should be regulated as far as may be by the principles of the Factory Acts. The hon. gentleman referred at length to the demoralising influences of the gang system in agricultural districts, arguing that, so far especially as women and young persons were concerned, it was attended with the most baneful consequences, while with respect to children it deprived them alike of mental culture and physical capacity.

Mr. WALPOLE entirely concurred in the propriety of the resolution, and would give it his hearty support; but he thought that Parliament should not proceed to legislate until it could include private as well as public gangs. He suggested the reappointment of the Commission, for the purpose of inquiring into the operation of private gangs.

The resolution was then agreed to.

## THE STATE AND RAILWAYS.

Mr. CRAWFORD brought forward a proposition to the effect that it is expedient in the interests of the public that, in cases where adequate security can be given, the State should assume the responsibility of the debenture debt of railway companies unable to meet their engagements, upon conditions providing for the eventual acquisition of such railways by the State upon terms of mutual advantage to the State and to the railway companies.

After a lengthened discussion the motion was withdrawn.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House, on the motion of Mr. Ayrton, took up the consideration of the Spiritual Distinction Bill. This measure proposed to make it incumbent upon the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to provide Curates for populous places where there was much spiritual distinction. Mr. Howe moved the rejection of the bill, on the ground that it would unduly fetter the action of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. After a long discussion, the bill was rejected by 173 votes to 78.

The Irish Seacoast Fisheries Bill was read the second time on the motion of Mr. Blake; Lord Naas, on the part of the Government, reserving the right to amend it in Committee.

The other business was unimportant.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Sugar Duties Bill was read the second time on the motion of the Earl of Belmore; and, the standing orders of the House having been dispensed with, the bill was put through its remaining stages and passed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE BUDGET.

After some comparatively uninteresting business had been disposed of, the House went into Committee of Ways and Means, and the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to make his financial statement. He said that when his predecessor brought forward his statement last year they were on the verge of a most severe crisis; and it was satis-

factory, notwithstanding the crisis, that his calculations had upheld his previous character for accuracy. The right hon. gentleman had estimated an income of upward of £67,000,000, while the actual income had exceeded £69,000,000, showing an increase of over £2,000,000. With regard to the estimated expenditure, there had been a further saving of £251,000, making a total balance in favour of the Exchequer of over £2,500,000. The estimated expenditure of the present year stood thus:—Interest on National Debt, including a reversion provided for by the right hon. gentleman, £26,000; further charges on the Consolidated Fund, £1,900,000; Army service, £15,233,000; Navy service, £10,926,000; Civil service, £8,203,000; revenue deposits, £5,045,000; packet service, £807,000; giving total expenditure, £68,000,134. The estimated income was as follows:—Customs, £22,000,000; excise, £20,700,000; stamps, £3,550,000; taxes, £3,500,000; property and income tax, £6,000,000. Post Office, £4,650,000; Crown lands, £340,000; miscellaneous receipts, £2,600,000; total estimated income, £69,340,000, showing an estimated surplus of £1,206,000. Having adverted to the large reduction of taxation since the Russian War, the right hon. gentleman said that, with the exception of the malt tax, there was not one tax which interfered with the industry of the community; but it was quite impossible, with the resources at his disposal, that he could deal with that tax. In these circumstances, the next subject that pressed upon them was the reduction of the National Debt. He did not approve of dealing with it by way of a sinking fund. Last year the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Gladstone) called their attention to the subject of our debt; and, although the right hon. gentleman opened with a sneer at a remark once made by him (the Chancellor of the Exchequer)—

Mr. GLADSTONE was understood to say that he did not allude to Mr. Disraeli.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER—Well, he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) was made responsible for a well-known saying. He approved of the policy of the right hon. gentleman as a wise policy; perhaps in some respects too complicated. He hoped the first part of the scheme of the right hon. gentleman would be passed, and he had provided for it. The second part was more complicated, and would not be completed till the year 1865. In lieu of that part of the scheme which dealt with £24,000,000 of the debt, he would make another proposal—namely, to cancel the amount of the debt by granting a terminable annuity which would terminate in 1885, instead of 1905. The sum of £24,000,000, it was well to bear in mind, was divided into two sums of £18,000,000 and £6,000,000. He proposed to convert the £18,000,000, yielding an interest of £440,000, into an annuity of £1,332,000, terminating on July 5, 1885, payable half-yearly; and, with regard to the £6,000,000, to convert it into an annuity of £440,000, terminating also in 1885. The total of the new annuities would be £1,760,000, and the total additional charge for the year 1867-8 would be £750,000. The future annual charge would be £1,760,000, less the interest paid on the sum at present, which would make the charge £1,056,000 per annum. There would still remain an available surplus of £456,000. With regard to this, he proposed that there should be a uniform rate of marine insurance, and that the lowest amount paid at present. That would absorb £210,000, which would leave a balance of £246,000. This was all he had to submit to them, and he hoped it would meet with their approval. After some concluding observations, the right hon. gentleman sat down amid loud cheers from both sides of the House, after having spoken fifty-five minutes. In his closing sentences he remarked that he was not an alarmist; and he was confident that as long as his noble friend (Lord Stanley) was at the head of our foreign affairs we should not be involved in any unnecessary war.

Mr. GLADSTONE thought there had been an error in the calculations with regard to the malt and excise duties. He did not contemplate with satisfaction the increased expenditure of the country. Last year the estimates for particular services were £38,205,000; and for the same services this year the charge was £40,234,000, making an augmentation of £2,029,000. Referring to the surplus, he would say that the whole of that could have been disposed of for the reduction of the National Debt had the plan of last year been carried out. He was opposed to the fire insurance duty; but, at the same time, they must bear in mind how closely the duty on fire insurance for houses was connected with property, and he could not consent to take that off unless some less objectionable means could be suggested of obtaining a similar sum from property. The right hon. gentleman approved of the proposal of reducing the public debt as the best and surest mode of making the money fructify throughout the country. He defended the principle of reduction of the National Debt as one that had been recognised at every period except in times when we were obliged to increase it, and the modes usually adopted either by surpluses or by terminable annuities. He instanced the example of the United States on this principle, who had from August, 1865, to January, 1867, paid off over £43,000,000 out of the taxes of the country, and their doing so had excited in his mind unbounded admiration. He thought the course adopted by the Chancellor of the Exchequer was a wise one, and one that would tend to the interests of the country.

Several other gentlemen addressed the House.

A lengthened discussion ensued, in which the Budget was generally approved.

#### CANADA RAILWAY LOAN BILL.

This bill passed through Committee.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 1867.

#### TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE great European event of the week has no doubt been the opening of the French International Exhibition. When international exhibitions were first started it used to be the fashion to descant on the good such undertakings were likely to do in the way of calming national jealousies. Friendly competition in the arts of peace was gradually to put an end to war. Such, at least, was the opinion generally expressed on the occasion of the opening of the first exhibition of the kind held in London. Unfortunately, just when a second Temple of Universal Peace was being prepared in Paris, the Russians were so unreasonable as to compel us to fight them on the Eastern Question, which will yet, it is to be feared, cause more quarrelling than international exhibitions will ever allay. However, if the French Exhibition of 1855 was opened in the midst of war, that of the present year does certainly mark a period of profound peace. Only, no one now looks upon this Exhibition as the cause of peace, when it is, in fact, its consequence. It was due in 1865. But the war with Denmark was then just over, and the war between Prussia and Austria was just about to begin; so the great international work which was to be looked upon as the symbol of general good-will between the nations of Europe, was very properly postponed until all actual fighting had come to an end.

Of the four great Exhibitions held alternately in England and France since the year 1851, the one which is now attracting visitors from all parts of the world to Paris will be the second that has been opened during a period of universal peace. At the London Exhibition of 1851 every nation that claims to be civilised (to say nothing of a few who have no pretensions of the kind) was represented. But in 1855 Russia declined to accept for her manufactures and natural products the hospitality of one of the Powers with which

she was then at war; and at the first great International Exhibition held by France there was at least one gap—though not, perhaps, a very important one. The same sort of thing happened in 1862, when the United States (or "Disunited States," as it was then the fashion to call them), being plunged in the horrors of a civil contest, abstained from competing at the London Exhibition of that year with countries more fortunately situated. This time, however, the great international show at which all the nations of the world are invited to present themselves will be once more complete. Let us hope that the omen, though somewhat artificially prepared, may prove a true one.

Nevertheless, some very ugly reports, not actually of a coming war, but of complications which in time may possibly lead to one, have lately been in circulation. The French papers treat the question of the cession of Luxembourg as a joke; but it is a joke that may lead to very serious consequences. What they really do not like in the matter is the notion of the French Emperor buying a province—as, to borrow one of their own illustrations, the sportsman who is unable to kill his own game, purchases it at the poulterer's. If his Majesty could conquer it by force of arms, or, without conquering it in a direct manner, could obtain it as the result of a successful war, then the annexation of Luxembourg to France would no doubt cause as much pleasure to patriotic Frenchmen as did that of Nice and Savoy.

The probability that Luxembourg would sooner or later be torn from Holland and included within the limits of a united Germany has often been discussed of late years. Danish writers in particular used to point out, in connection with that seemingly interminable Schleswig-Holstein question (which has been settled at last, however), that as it fared with the King of Denmark in regard to Schleswig and Holstein, so it ultimately would with the King of Holland in respect to Luxembourg and Limburg. The King of Holland holds Luxembourg and Limburg precisely as the King of Denmark held Holstein—that is to say, as a member of the Germanic Confederation. To avoid such troubles as were constantly being caused to Denmark by the interference of the Germanic Confederation in the internal affairs of the country, the King of the Netherlands gave his German province of Luxembourg an entirely separate Constitution from the rest of the monarchy. He evidently foresaw that an attempt would some day be made to assimilate the position of Luxembourg to that of Holstein, and this in spite of the fact that Luxembourg is a self-governing province, with a German administration and a German chamber of deputies. With the exception of a few regiments of Dutch troops—these, however, being quite outnumbered by the Prussians, who form the great bulk of the garrison—there is no sign in Luxembourg of Dutch domination. Holstein, however, was equally self-governed, and yet plenty of pretexts were found for claiming it when it was wanted for united Germany. If Holstein was administered as a German province, an undue number of Danish officials was employed in the sister province of Schleswig; and so it may be asserted that, although the German inhabitants of Luxembourg have nothing to complain of, yet there are too many signs of Dutch rule in German Limburg, which, in fact, forms an integral part of the kingdom of the Netherlands.

It appears to us, then, that the King of the Netherlands does not wish to get rid of his hereditary province of Luxembourg merely for the sake of the money he would pocket by the transaction in case of his really effecting a sale to France. He quite understands that Luxembourg will not be allowed to remain for any long period in its present position. If it is not ceded to France, Prussia will claim it; and the Dutch Monarch has no doubt enough of the commercial spirit which has always characterised his people to prefer selling it to France rather than have it forcibly taken from him by Prussia. Unfortunately for him, he has already given Prussia a pretext—which Count Bismarck, if he thinks fit, will know how to lay hold of—for taking that very step which he is endeavouring to render impossible. "If," the Prussian Minister may argue, "there were a fair chance of this German duchy being allowed to remain in its semi-independent position, then it would be unnecessary and unjust to interfere with it; but the King meditates ceding it to France, and we cannot allow Germans to be sold at so much a head to a foreign Power, nor can we allow France to occupy a fortress which will give her a commanding position on our frontier."

The question of Luxembourg may yet give rise to serious complications. Fortunately, we shall have nothing to do with them. It concerns France not to let the fortress fall absolutely into the hands of Prussia; and it concerns the Prussians to keep the French out of it. Perhaps the best solution for us, and, indeed, for the parties immediately interested, would be that it should remain in the power of Holland, which is the legal *supposition* on the subject now. But we may be sure that the Prussian garrison will not leave the place unless they are turned out; and in the present temper of the Prussian, or perhaps we should say of the German, nation, nothing resembling such an invitation as that can be addressed to them without being looked upon as a direct challenge to war.

ANOTHER TRIPLE BIRTH has taken place in the west of England. A donation of £3 from the Queen has been received by the poor mother—a Mrs. Chope, of Bideford.

DREADFUL EXPLOSION AT THE FAVERSHAM POWDER-WORKS.—On Monday afternoon a dreadful explosion occurred at the gunpowder-works of Messrs. Hall and Son, situate at Faversham, by which four men lost their lives, and another was very severely injured. The explosion took place in a building called the "mixing-house," in which powder undergoes almost the last process.

#### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE OF WALES and the King and Queen of Denmark visited St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Wednesday.

THE MARQUIS OF ABERCORN is, according to a current rumour, shortly to be created a Duke.

THE EARL OF DERBY is credited with the following mot:—"It is very odd that I never get a few steps up the ladder without feeling 'dizzy.'"

THE RIGHT HON. FRANCIS BLACKBURN, ex-Lord Chancellor of Ireland, is rapidly recovering from his late indisposition.

MR. TITE, M.P. for Bath, has been elected by the Council of the Royal Architectural Institute as their next president. The other candidate put forward was Earl Grosvenor, M.P.

THE BANK OF SCOTLAND is about to open a London agency in Broad-street.

THE BAVARIAN CHAMBER has passed a bill abolishing capital punishment by a majority of 87 to 44.

MR. SWINBURNE, under the title of "A Song of Italy," is about to publish a new poem of nearly 800 lines.

A GENERAL STRIKE OF THE DORSETSHIRE AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS will, it is expected, be organised during the summer. Their wages do not exceed in many cases nine shillings a week.

THE CATCH OF MACKEREL to the fishermen at Mounts Bay, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of last week was about £5000. Prices ranged from 12s. 6d. to 15s. per six score. The fish are very large and of excellent quality.

THE DEANERY OF HEREFORD, vacant by the recent death of the Very Rev. R. Dawes, has been conferred upon the Hon. and Rev. George Herbert, brother of the Earl of Powis, and one of the prebendaries of Hereford.

THE ENGINE-DRIVERS of the Caledonian Railway have received notice of an advance on their wages to the amount of 3s. per week, and the labourers and platelayers have also been advanced 1s.

A PROCLAMATION has been issued by the Queen of Madagascar forbidding civilians to wear hats with brims, and restricting that privilege to the Government officers. The civilians are now wearing a kind of skull-cap. Many wear their old hats with the brims torn off, and the streets are strewn with the discarded brims.

A TERRIBLE FIRE has burnt down a whole quarter of Constantinople. The dockyards of the Golden Horn are entirely reduced to ashes. The loss is estimated at not less than half a million sterling.

AT THE EXAMINATION OF CANDIDATES for Woolwich Academy, in January, 1868, and at subsequent examinations, no candidate will be allowed to count any marks in the voluntary portion of the mathematical examination unless he shall have obtained one sixth of the maximum assigned to that branch of the subject.

ALL GERMAN COPYRIGHTS, the term of which has been extended by special privileges, will expire at the close of this year. This will set free the writings of Goethe, Schiller, Wieland, Herder, Körner, Bürger, Jean Paul Richter, and others; and cheap reprints of many are already announced at Berlin.

A SCHEME has been prepared for the removal of the Church of St. Mildred at the eastern end of the Poultry. For many months past it has had no congregation. By the removal of the church a large space will be obtained for the improvements which have long been required in that neighbourhood.

THE DUNGRYON FLYING COLUMN came upon some armed Fenians near Mitchelstown on Sunday. Refusing to surrender, one was mortally wounded and two captured.

THE DANES residing in London presented an address to their King on Tuesday. His Majesty returned a very spirited and remarkable answer, in which he gave strong expression to the feeling the Danes entertain towards Prussia. The King complains that the principle of nationality is torn asunder in Schleswig, and affirms that even the German-speaking population of the south detest their enforced annexation to Prussia.

GARLIC came originally from Sicily; the bean, pear, and onion from Egypt; the egg-plant from Africa; the artichoke, horseradish, and beet from Southern Europe; the peach, walnut, and mulberry from Persia; spinach from Arabia; rye from Siberia; the chestnut from Italy; the cucumber from the East Indies; parsley from Sardinia; and the potato and maize are natives of America.

THE PROHIBITION against paying more than "regulation" for promotion is to be omitted from the forthcoming edition of the Queen's regulations. Strange to say, however, the prohibition will still keep its place in the Articles of War.

A MEMBER OF THE LIGHT-FINGERED FRATERNITY was recently seized with a pious fit and went to confess. During the religious rite he was seized with another fit—that called politely kleptomaniac—and seeing a handsome silver snuffbox peeping out of the priest's robe he appropriated it and departed quickly after.

THE HUNGARIAN NATION has just presented the Emperor Francis Joseph with the domain of Godollo. There is a fine château, with excellent shooting in the forests on the estate, which is about fifteen English miles from Pešt. It belonged formerly to the now extinct princely family of Grassalkovich but had been lately bought by a Belgian company.

MR. STANSFIELD will visit his constituents at Halifax during the Easter vacation, when it is probable a town's meeting on Reform will be held, at which, writes the hon. member, "he would feel it his duty to attend." "In any case," he says, "I shall seek some opportunity during my stay of addressing my fellow-townsmen on this all-important and engrossing subject."

HYDE PARK AND THE GREEN PARK will henceforth be in the charge of the metropolitan police. In Hyde Park the carriage gates will remain open until twelve o'clock each night instead of ten o'clock. Such arrangements have been made as will, it is believed, put a stop to the disorderly conduct which was permitted under the old management. The Magazine Barracks in the centre of the park will be occupied as a police station.

THE STRIKE OF THE TYNE IRONWORKERS is at an end. On Saturday last a deputation of the puddlers out on strike at Jarrow waited upon Mr. Ridley, manager of the rolling-mills of Messrs. Palmer and Co., and, after a friendly conversation, were led to see the reasonableness of the demands of the masters in the present depressed state of trade, and agreed to go in again at their terms. The hammermen and the labourers have also agreed to the reduction.

CAPTAIN HANS BUSK has just presented to the trustees of the National Gallery a magnificent picture by Nicholas Poussin. In the opinion of competent judges it is one of the finest specimens extant of that master. It was painted in 1641, and was purchased some years ago from the Barberini Palace for 600 guineas. This work of art is in excellent preservation, and is one of the gems of the collection of the late Mr. Hans Busk, of Great Cumberland-place.

A MR. WALTERS, living in Everton, died recently, leaving a widow and family. He had insured his life for £500. His wife had two lodgers; and one of them, named Linton, received the £500, without her authority, at Shrewsbury, and then telegraphed to Mrs. Walters to meet him at Shrewsbury. She left; and then the other lodger, Pike, called in a broker, sold off the widow's furniture, and decamped to join his rascally associate, who, of course, was not to be found at Shrewsbury.

TRAFFIC OF LONDON.—Sir R. Mayne states in his evidence given before the Committee of the House of Lords on the Metropolis Traffic Regulation Bill that in 1855, when Mr. Fitzroy's bill passed, the number of cabs licensed was only 3296, but it has now increased to 6149. The omnibuses, on the other hand, have decreased; there were 1446 then, and there are 1050 now. The number of London cab-drivers, omnibus-drivers, and conductors licensed is more than 13,000. Sir R. Mayne thinks that the cabs have deteriorated within the last three or four years, and he makes the admission unwillingly, he says, since he attributes the change partly to insufficient supervision over them. Colonel Fraser, the City Commissioner of Police, is in favour of having two classes of cabs, one charging sixpence and the other, say, nine-pence, the latter class to be distinguishable at a glance by being painted of a particular colour: he adduces the cases of the metropolitan railway omnibuses, now divided into first and second class compartments—a plan which, he says, seems to answer. He sees no reason why there should not be a third class of cabs, a superior carriage like those which are on hire at railway stations—cabs which might be hired by the hour at a still higher rate of fare. In relation to traffic, Mr. Scott, registrar of the coal market, states that more than 4,000,000 tons of coal go through the streets of London for delivery within four miles of Charing-cross in a year—about 14,000 tons a day. Mr. Robert Hanbury stated that his firm sent out 3000 barrels of beer in a day for delivery. Within the four-mile radius there are about 6500 public-houses and 2500 beerhouses. Formerly, the publicans used to have beer in large quantities at a time, but the beer now is "very mild," and it is taken newer—in fact, directly it is brewed. On the question of limiting to certain hours the delivery of coals, beer, &c., Sir R. Mayne says,—"I cannot judge of the amount of inconvenience it may cause, but I have known so many cases in which I was told that things were impossible, and which I have found, when the law was compulsory, were quite possible, that I do not entirely consider that a case is made out by the mere assertion that the thing is impossible. When the Act for the abatement of the smoke nuisance was passed, I was told that it was impossible, and could not be carried out. When the Act for the regulation of cattle passing through the streets was passed, I remember that a deputation of the cattle salesmen and drovers, and persons of that description, came to me and represented that it was impossible, and that I should raise the price of meat to 1s. 6d. or 2s. 6d. per lb. It may require a larger staff to do the same work in fewer hours, and, if so, I presume the public would pay for it; the public gain a great convenience, and they must pay for it, unless some new arrangements are found out preventing additional cost."

## EX-GOVERNOR EYRE.

THE bench of magistrates at Market Drayton, presided over by Sir Baldwin Leighton, unanimously decided, on Friday week, to dismiss the charge against ex-Governor Eyre of having murdered, or been accessory to the murder of, Mr. G. W. Gordon, during the insurrection in Jamaica. The decision of the magistrates was hailed by loud cheers from the people who had congregated in and around the courthouse. It is not yet known whether any, and if so, what, further steps will be taken against Mr. Eyre by the Jamaica Committee. For the following particulars of the career of the late Governor of Jamaica we are indebted to a memoir just compiled by Mr. Hamilton Hume, and published by Mr. Bentley, of New Burlington-street:—

Mr. Edward John Eyre, who is now about fifty years of age, is a son of the late Rev. Anthony Eyre, Vicar of Hornsea and Rector of Long Riston, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. He was educated partly at the Louth Grammar School, where Mr. Tennyson, the Poet Laureate, also received a part of his education; but he afterwards passed some time at Sedbergh Grammar School, in the North Riding. At seventeen years of age, having been disappointed of his wish to obtain a commission in the Army, he determined, with the approval of his family, to go out and seek his fortune as a settler in the Australian colonies. He arrived at Sydney, we believe, in 1833, with a capital of £400, which was invested in sheep-farming, but not till he had learned something of that business through a short apprenticeship to a squatter in the district of the Hunter River. Mr. Eyre was successful in his pastoral occupation, and still more when he engaged in the enterprise of transporting sheep and cattle overland, by the route of the Murray River, from New South Wales to the new province of South Australia, instead of their being conveyed, as had previously been done, from Sydney to Adelaide by sea. As there was a great demand for live stock just then in South Australia, he made a good profit by this venture, in which his characteristic boldness and energy were first displayed. The proceeds were invested in the purchase of an estate in that province, situated on the Lower Murray, where he settled and dwelt many years.

Having been appointed resident magistrate of his district, and "protector of aborigines" at that point of the colonial frontier, his official conduct, as mediator in the disputes incessantly prevailing between the European settlers and the wandering native tribes on the border, seems to have been just and humane. He frequently and earnestly remonstrated with the former against the murderous cruelties too often practised on their savage neighbours, whom it was even sought to exterminate by such practices as laying poisoned food in their path, or shooting them, like wild beasts, wherever they were seen. It is due to Mr. Eyre, at the present time especially, to remember that he had earned the reputation of a friend of the blacks long before he could have expected to become the Governor of a West Indian island; though not the slightest analogy is really to be found between the position of the negro peasantry and citizens of Jamaica, with the social and political complications of their peculiar case, and that of the helpless remnant of the native race in the vast Australian continent. Mr. Eyre pleads eloquently for better treatment of these helpless creatures in his book, "Discoveries in Central Australia," which he published in 1845.

In the mean time he had an opportunity of distinguishing himself as an explorer of the unknown shore of the great Australian bight,



EDWARD JOHN EYRE, EX-GOVERNOR OF JAMAICA.

extending from 118 deg. to 134 deg. of east longitude, between King George's Sound, in West Australia, and Port Lincoln, in South Australia, not far from the town of Adelaide. Mr. Eyre had, indeed, for his own part, strongly opposed the notion that a practical road for sending sheep and cattle to West Australia might be found in that direction. He had recommended, instead of an expedition westward along the coast, an expedition northward from Adelaide, beyond the extensive salt marsh called Lake Torrens, with a view to discovering some fertile land in the interior. He therefore volunteered not only to take the command of such an expedition, but to pay a third part of its cost. This proposal was accepted by the Adelaide subscribers to the fund raised for the purpose of exploring, with the Governor of South Australia at their head. On June 20, 1840, the expedition started, consisting of Mr. Eyre, with five other Englishmen, and two native boys, having a sufficient number of horses to carry their store of provisions, utensils,

and clothing. Three months having been spent in the vain attempt to make his way northward along the muddy or sandy margin of Lake Torrens, Mr. Eyre was obliged to give up his cherished plan and fall back on Port Lincoln for supplies, which were brought him in a small vessel sent by the Governor from Adelaide. He then resolved not to return to Adelaide without accomplishing anything, but to travel westward along the seacoast, and so practically test the impossibility of finding a road to West Australia that way.

For some distance, as far as Fowler's Bay, his party had the assistance of the vessel, sailing in the same direction as they walked on shore, but she could not go beyond that point. After dismissing those of his companions who chose to return in the vessel, and sending a final report to the promoters of the expedition at Adelaide, Mr. Eyre set forth anew from Fowler's Bay on Feb. 25. He was now acting independently on his own account, and in spite of the urgent advice and entreaties of his friends at Adelaide, who wrote to him, the Governor amongst them, begging him to desist from such a perilous undertaking. He chose, nevertheless, to persist in it, and did actually succeed in passing all round the shore of the bight to King George's Sound, a walk of more than 1000 miles along the dreariest, driest, and barest coast in the world, mere sand and rocks, with a little scrub vegetation here and there, but destitute of grass, and where the party travelled sometimes a week or more without finding a drop of fresh water. Their sufferings were dreadful; but none perished absolutely of thirst and starvation, which has been the fate of other Australian explorers. The overseer, Baxter, who was the only European with Mr. Eyre, was killed one night by two of the native boys, who took the opportunity, while he slept and Mr. Eyre was away with the horses, to plunder the camp stores and abscond with their booty. The boy Wylie, a native of King George's Sound, alone remained with Mr. Eyre during the last two months of their journey, which was broken, indeed, by a fortnight's rest and refreshment on board a whaling-vessel they found anchored off the coast on June 1. Without this relief and timely renewal of his supplies, having before lost all the horses or eaten them for want of other food, it is probable that Mr. Eyre would have been starved to death long before he got to Albany, King George's Sound, which was on July 7, four months and a half after his setting out from Fowler's Bay. He had been given up as a lost man by the people both at Albany and at Adelaide, who now rejoiced in his safety, and in the extraordinary feat of personal hardihood which he had performed, and which furnished an experimental proof, not of the impossibility, but of the enormous difficulty and practical uselessness of the western route—that being the proposition Mr. Eyre had asserted from the first. The results of this expedition to geographical science were, indeed, of a negative character, though of some service in disproving the erroneous theories and schemes previously entertained.

In 1845 Mr. Eyre returned to England, after twelve years' absence, bringing with him two little boys of the Australian native race, who were shown to the Queen and Prince Albert, and who were to have been educated here. One, however, being of a vicious temper, was sent back; the other was put to school, but died some time afterwards. At the end of 1846 Mr. Eyre, who had published his book of Australian experiences, received from Earl Grey, then Secretary of State for the Colonies, the appointment of Lieutenant-Governor of New Zealand, as second to the Governor, Sir George



DR. LIVINGSTONE, THE AFRICAN TRAVELLER.



THE LATE MR. ALFRED MELLON.

## LOWER CANADA

QUEBEC  
UPPER CANADA.

## NEW BRUNSWICK

## NOVA SCOTIA

## FREDERICKTON.

## HALIFAX

**Grey.** Mr. Eyre went out to New Zealand accordingly, and remained there six years, residing usually at Wellington, but administering the government of the middle island, in which the provinces of Nelson, Canterbury, and O'ago are situated. While in New Zealand he married a daughter of Captain Ormond, R.N., by whom he has children.

In 1853, at the expiration of the full term for which a colonial Governor is appointed, he again came home to England, and stayed about a twelvemonth, until he was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the island of St. Vincent, in the West Indies. This post he likewise held six years; but during the last year or two, 1859 and 1860, he was in the island of Antigua, filling the place of the Governor of the Leewards Islands, who then had leave of absence.

At the end of the prescribed term Mr. Eyre returned once more to this country, his health being much impaired by overwork and living in a tropical climate; but he did not long enjoy the repose he wanted. Early in the year 1862 Mr. Eyre was commissioned by the Duke of Newcastle to administer the government of Jamaica during the absence of Governor Darling. His nomination was at first for twelve months only, as it was expected that Sir George Darling would return; but he received subsequently the full appointment of Governor. We need not here repeat the history of the unhappy events of the last few years in Jamaica, and particularly of the insurrection and massacre at Morant Bay, on Oct. 11, 1865, with the retaliation which followed; or the inquiry set on foot by her Majesty's Government, and the return of Mr. Eyre to this country last summer, as they must be still fresh in the recollection of the public.

#### DR. LIVINGSTONE, THE AFRICAN TRAVELLER.

**Dr. DAVID LIVINGSTONE,** the distinguished African explorer—about whose fate the public mind is still so painfully anxious, and as to which there is so much reason, unhappily, to fear the worst, that we may perhaps be justified in speaking of him in the past tense, though we shall be rejoiced if in this we are premature—was a native of the little village of Blantyre, in Scotland, where he was born between 1815 and 1817; and in early life was employed in a cotton-mill, as a piecer-boy. But, in the midst of his daily labour, he was smitten with a desire to learn from books; and, earning money as a spinner in the summer months, he went to Glasgow to school in the winter, and there laid the foundation for those studies that have had such splendid fruits in his maturer life. He was engaged, however, in the spinning business up to the year 1840, when, at the age of twenty-five, with a mind improved by education and a heart filled with burning desire to be useful to his fellow-men in dark parts of the earth, he entered into the service of the London Missionary Society. His studies had been medical as well as religious, and he aimed at doing good to the bodies as well as the souls of his fellow-men. The society sent him out to Africa, and he stopped at the Cape of Good Hope, where he was at first employed in astronomical pursuits. This was not the object by any means of his mission, for he was expected to push on into the interior to take charge of the Kuruman mission-station. In June, 1849, he set out on his first exploring expedition, and the ensuing August reached Lake Ngami, as unknown then as it has since been made familiar. In 1851, after several more expeditions of less importance, he made one in which he reached the Zambesi. In 1852 he had a casual glimpse of civilisation again for the first time in twelve years on a trip to Capetown undertaken for the purpose of sending his wife to England. Mrs. Livingstone was the daughter of the African missionary Moffat; her husband had met and married her in Africa, and it was there that she met her death some two years since, after a participation in nearly all the hardships of his life. In January, 1853, he left Capetown on the journey out of which he made his first book, "Missionary Travels and Researches in South Africa." In this journey he went through with very notable pluck as many difficulties and discomforts as would have sufficed to discourage a dozen ordinary men, and he ended it in May, 1856, four years after he started, at Quilimane, on the Indian Ocean, having traversed the continent from ocean to ocean for a distance of very near 9000 miles with (and without) all conceivable kinds of conveyance. He found a British gun-boat at Quilimane, and made the passage in her to the Mauritius, and so home by the overland route. He arrived in England in December, 1856, and was of course made a lion of. Numerous public meetings were held in his honour, at which he found that his long absence and his disuse of his mother tongue had made him so unskillful in it that he was unable to express himself to the satisfaction of himself or his audiences. His book came out in 1857, carrying his popularity throughout Great Britain and America.

But he turned his back on his successes, and sailed for the second time in March, 1857. The Government had given him the consulate at Quilimane, and he made this place the *point d'appui* for his next important expedition, in which he was accompanied by a party of savans. The course taken was up the River Zambesi, and the results of his voyage are recorded in his second book—"Narrative of an Expedition to the Zambesi and its Tributaries." Last year he returned a third time to Africa, and we have since heard of him only in a vague way and at long intervals, until the announcement of his supposed death reached us.

#### MR. ALFRED MELLON.

So large a concourse of the musical and dramatic professions has rarely been known as at the burial, on Tuesday, of Mr. Alfred Mellon, whose lamented and almost sudden death we had last week the melancholy duty of recording. The procession left the deceased's house, in King's-road, Chelsea, a little before twelve o'clock, and at the gates of Brompton Cemetery it was met by numbers of gentlemen who, either as personal friends, colleagues, or lovers of music, had known and esteemed the artist cut off in what appeared to be the midst of his flourishing career. The chief mourners were Mr. T. Mellon, father of the deceased, and Mr. W. Woolgar, father of Mrs. Alfred Mellon; and there were, either in the funeral train or on the ground, Mr. Costa, Signor Ardit, Mr. Benedict, Mr. Lindsay Sloper; Mr. Scholefield, M.P.; Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Frank Matthews, Mdme. Arabella Goddard, Mr. J. L. Toole, Mr. W. Anson, Mr. Edward Murray, Mr. Augustus Harris, and numerous others. A choir, led by Mr. G. W. Martin, sang, with solemn effect, a chorale, the composition of that gentleman; and also gave a noble expression to those passages of the burial service commencing "Man that is born of a woman," and "Lord, Thou knowest." The body was borne from the chapel to the grave in a polished oaken coffin, which rested on a low car. The plate on the lid simply bore the name of the deceased, his age, forty-seven years, and the date of his death. The few biographical details of Mr. Mellon's brief career were published by us last week in announcing his lamented death.

#### THE CONFEDERATION OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

The reorganisation of the States of British North America by their union under one Government may now be regarded as an accomplished fact, since we shall probably soon hear of the adhesion of Prince Edward's Island and Newfoundland. Our Engravings represent the principal cities of the four provinces which are thus about to be consolidated in one confederation; the other two will, perhaps, be added to them by the time that the Government at Ottawa enters upon the consideration of the preliminary articles of the Constitution; for Ottawa will, it is supposed, be the seat of the empire, as it is now the capital of the southern and most important part of British North America.

There is a great difference between Quebec, the capital of Canada East, and Ottawa, the chief town of Canada West and the seat of the Government, which for some time it has shared with Toronto. Quebec is a city which, from an Indian village, discovered by Jacques Cartier, in 1534, became a town, founded by Samuel de Champlain, in 1608, still bears some tokens of its French origin; not that the old place is either very lively or altogether attractive, but the buildings are some of them remarkable, and their names and pur-

poses remain. The city, which is finely situated on a promontory formed by the confluence of the St. Charles with the St. Lawrence, consists of an upper and a lower town. The lower town, which is the commercial portion, was built round the base of the promontory, where in many places the stone has been removed to make way for the houses. Queer old places many of them are—ill built, and forming steep, narrow, and badly-paved streets; while a difficult causeway leads to the upper town. Of course, this commercial portion consists mainly of great warehouses and dingy shops and wharves; in the upper town, which has a northerly aspect, the streets and houses are superior. The only public building which has any pretensions to elegance is the Parliament House, which was formerly the palace of the Bishops of Quebec, and stands over the gate leading from the lower town. There are a Protestant and a Roman Catholic cathedral, the latter a great clumsy-looking pile, with a monstrous dome and spire. There is also a Scotch free church and a general hospital, beside the Hôtel Dieu and the Ursuline Convent; the Exchange, the Museum, and the Library, with a valuable collection of books, complete the catalogue of places of note, if we except the monument to Wolfe, on the Plains of Abraham, and an obelisk in the upper town to Wolfe and Montcalm. The visitor who may design a patriotic excursion to Wolfe's monument, however, will probably have his enthusiasm dashed by finding himself amidst a sordid colony, and the statue itself has been completely neglected. The appearance of Quebec as approached by the traveller is very striking, and the disappointment on entering the city itself is, perhaps, correspondingly great; for, under a clear sky and burning sun, the tops of the houses flash and glitter as though they belonged to some fabled city, not paved, but roofed, with silver and gold. The fact is that metal was found to be more convenient than slate, or tile, or wood in the early days of the city, and many of the houses are still covered with tin or iron, which for some reason or other does not seem to become dim or to corrode in that climate.

Ottawa is even now almost unknown to us except in our recollections of the river from which it takes its name, and yet it is the capital of Canada, standing on the south-west side of the stream, where the Rideau joins it, eighty-seven miles from its mouth, and where the beautiful falls are the great object of attraction. The scenery is, in fact, next to Niagara, the most magnificent of the inhabited portion of Canada; and we some time ago published in our columns an Illustration of the celebrated Chaudière Falls, below which the handsome suspension-bridge may be said to unite the upper and lower provinces. Ottawa city, then, appeals to us only as a maiden city—a young, wild, free, half-Indian beauty of a town, only just springing into life; and, in truth, it is so, although, to tell the truth, we have had some previous acquaintance with her before her second baptism, under the name of Bytown. Probably there was an Indian village, named after the river, on the spot where Bytown afterwards arose; but that there was a Bytown and an Upper and Lower Bytown, the former the most aristocratic and the latter the most business-like, let maps and gazettes give evidence. Bytown was, in fact, the district town of Dalhousie, and, being supported principally by the lumber trade, grew rather rapidly—say, with parvenu rapidity—began to aspire to stone buildings, erected a gaol and a courthouse, and churches and chapels of various denominations, and then suddenly found itself famous and a leader of fashion under the name of Ottawa. The growth of towns and of mankind is rapid in that climate, and the traditions of Bytown were probably forgotten with the name, on the first day of September, 1860, when the Prince of Wales laid the foundation of the new Parliament House and Ottawa became the capital of the province.

Old-fashioned, sea-beaten Halifax, sturdy old town, though it is the capital of Nova Scotia (why did we not retain that pretty French name, Acadie?), cannot vie with the bran new City of the Empire. But Nova Scotia can hold its own, nevertheless, by virtue of its coal-beds, gypsum, iron ore, and other unwrought treasures, as well as by its alluvial tracts and plains, with half a million of acres under cultivation, and more than eight millions of uncleared forest; above all, perhaps, by the education of its people. Near the centre of the peninsula stands Halifax, on a declivity on the west side of a deep inlet of the sea, which extends several miles inland. About three miles long and three quarters of a mile wide is Halifax, and the streets are of that rectangular pattern which, if it loses in the way of picturesqueness, at least secures ventilation, and often width. Many of the houses are, it is true, built of wood, plastered and stuccoed; but some of them are of stone, and the public buildings, if they are not showy, are remarkably substantial. There are five or six churches, a large Roman Catholic cathedral, and a number of chapels of various denominations. The Government building, too, is a fine edifice, and beside a college, called Dalhousie College, there are several public schools, hospitals, a theatre, an exchange, and a public library. It is to the dockyard, however, that Halifax owes its reputation; for it is one of the finest in the British colonies, and the Bedford Basin, formed by the expansion of the inlet beyond the harbour, would contain a whole navy. Ships can come up close alongside the wharves that fringe the town and there discharge their cargoes into the warehouses. The completion of the railway to Montreal, and the telegraphic connection with Ireland, has still further improved the rising fortunes of Halifax.

Not so considerable a place is Fredericton, the capital of the fourth State in the confederation; but then Fredericton is still in its early stage of "lumber trade;" and, though its streets are regular, they consist at present mostly of wooden houses. New Brunswick, a territory of 26,000 square miles, bounded by Lower Canada, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Nova Scotia, the Bay of Fundy, and the State of Maine, is not destitute of harbours, for it has the bays of Bathurst, Miramichi, Pascamaquoddy, and St. John. It is an undulating country, full of fertile plains and valleys watered by large rivers, traversed by veins of coal and minerals, and rapidly clearing its forests for shipbuilding. The capital of this promising country was originally called St. Ann, and our recollections of it under that name, as well as our first reference to the Ottawa, belongs to the "Canadian Boat-song" of our youth, when we declared that we would "sing at Saint Ann's our evening hymn." Fredericton, with its wooden houses, is destined to rise as other cities have risen; but at present the public buildings are few, and only such as are necessary to the convenience of business. The river here, however, is three quarters of a mile wide, and navigable for vessels of fifty tons for three miles above the town; and Fredericton has become the chief entrepot for commerce with the interior, receiving British merchandise for distribution in the province; while the timber and lumber from the upper districts are collected here before they are floated down for exportation to St. John.

**A FACT WORTH KNOWING.**—It is a remarkable fact that persons losing themselves in a forest or a snowstorm manifest invariably a tendency to turn round gradually to the left, to the extent of eventually moving in a circle. The explanation of this is found, probably, in the fact, that the limbs and muscles of the right side are generally better developed than those of the left side. Under the excitement felt when one is lost, and in the absence of any guiding line, the superior energy of the right limbs throws the pedestrian, insensibly, round to the left.

**THE GOVERNMENT AND THE REFORM LEAGUE.**—On Tuesday, a deputation, consisting of 150 members of various societies connected with the Reform League, waited upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Lord Stanley on the subject of the Reform Bill. Besides the usual speakers, Aldermen Carter and Baldwin, of Leeds and Birmingham, addressed the right hon. gentlemen. The special points raised were the rate-paying clauses, the savings-bank franchise, length of residence, and a lodger franchise. The two first they objected to altogether, and declared that a six months' residence only, and a lodger franchise to admit working men, were with them indispensable. Mr. Disraeli said that they represented extreme opinions, but there were also others who held extreme opinions of a different nature, and who were numerous, influential, and powerful. No satisfactory settlement of the question could therefore be hoped for if it were not discussed in a spirit of mutual concession and forbearance. Their representations would be well considered, and that conversation, he hoped, would not have been without avail. Lord Stanley concurred with his right hon. colleague, and apologised for the absence of the Earl of Derby, from illness. Mr. Beales, M.A., wound up the conversation by intimating that if the bill was not satisfactory to the League a still hotter agitation would be entered upon.

#### THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

I do not believe that any mortal man can tell what will happen on Monday next when Mr. Disraeli rises to move that Mr. Speaker do now leave the chair, for the purpose of getting the House into Committee on "the Representation of the People Bill." Mr. Gladstone intends to move a resolution pledging the House to support a ratal franchise, the exact amount of which ratal I have not learned. But, unfortunately, there are upon the paper several amendments which will take precedence of Mr. Gladstone's; and if either of these should be put from the chair and negatived, no other amendment can be put. For an amendment on the motion "that Mr. Speaker do leave the chair" is put in this way:—"The motion made is that I do now leave the chair; since which an amendment has been moved that all the words after *that* be left out, in order to insert the words (of the amendment). The question which I have to put is, that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question." Now, if the House decide that the words proposed to be left out do stand part of the question, it is obvious that nobody can again move that they be left out, and consequently no further amendment can be moved. Now, in all probability, any amendment now on the paper would be thus negatived; and, if any amendment standing before Gladstone's should be negatived, his must fall to the ground. It would seem, then, that Mr. Gladstone will not be able to get up a fight. But who can tell? Perhaps all the members now having amendments on the paper may be persuaded to withdraw them, to allow Mr. Gladstone to move his.

But, supposing that there should be a fight, would Gladstone win? Doubtful. The Liberals have a majority; but, since Disraeli's ingenious speech was made on Tuesday week the Liberal party has become very much disorganised, many of the gentlemen thinking that it would be the best policy to allow the bill to get into Committee; and if they adhere to this policy, it would seem to be clear that Gladstone will not be able to carry his amendment. This however, may happen:—On the amendment that "the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question," the recalcitrant Conservatives may join Gladstone, and together they may be able to get the words left out. But, on the proposition that the amendment be "here inserted," these Conservative rebels would secede from the Liberal leader, and, in that case, the word "That" would be all left of the original question; and on that night the House could not go into Committee. This would be a defeat of the Government. Would, then, the Government throw up their bill, and resign? or what would be done? Time alone can show. As at present advised, I am rather inclined to think that, somehow, the difficulties will be surmounted, and the bill will get into Committee. Disraeli is a very shifty tactician. He knows the forms of the House as well as any man in it. There is a strong wish in the House to carry a reform bill of some sort; and I fancy that he may steer clear of the rocks and shoals which beset him, and at least land his bill in Committee. How it will come out, or whether it will ever come out, nobody can divine. Disraeli is evidently not very sanguine.

On Monday Sir Colman O'Loghlen asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer when the House would adjourn for the Easter holidays. To which Disraeli replied, "Sir, the usual Easter recess begins on the 12th of this month and terminates on the 29th; but whether that will be the usual recess this Session is at present a question in the hands of fate." Great events may happen before Friday, the 12th, necessitating changes in the arrangements. The Government may be out, a Ministry have to be reconstructed, and writs to be moved.

I have said that the Liberal party is disorganised. Obviously, the Conservative party is not much less so. Some dozen members of the party have announced their defection. But how many silent members may rebel, when the time comes, cannot approximately be guessed. I should not be surprised to see, upon some important question, fifty men walk into the Opposition lobby, or, what is more likely, out of the House.

In one of Disraeli's speeches, when he was so fiercely attacking Sir Robert Peel, he told the great statesman that he was "at the head of an organised hypocrisy, and that he was a great middleman, who sold one party and bamboozled another." On recalling this description to an old-fashioned Conservative, after that strange speech of Disraeli's, he replied, "That is now true of him. He has robbed us of our character and bamboozled you."

Mr. Charles H. Bennett is dead. That is an announcement which all readers of your Paper—indeed, everybody—will receive with profound regret. Mr. Bennett had long been in delicate health, but he bore his sufferings with such unmurmuring patience that but few of his friends apprehended danger, and his death, on Tuesday, has consequently taken most people by surprise. I knew him well, as you are aware, and I am sure a more genial, gentle, kindly, and, though gifted, unassuming being never breathed. Of him it may be said, with more truth than of any other man I ever met, "None knew thee but to love thee, or named thee but to praise." He was only in his thirty-eighth year, and has left a wife and several children to lament a loss which to them must be severe indeed. Mr. Bennett's work has been before the public for the last ten years, though it is only comparatively lately that his name has been widely known. His first sketches appeared in *Diogenes*, and were signed in the corner with the figure of an owl. They speedily attracted attention, and Mr. Bennett's pencil was afterwards secured for a series of capital slight outline portraits of members of Parliament, which were published in the *Illustrated Times*. Then came his "Shadows," a capital idea, which was universally pirated; then some serious work, among the best of which was a series of illustrations to the "Pilgrim's Progress," edited by the Rev. C. Kingsley; next his "Origin of Species," dedicated by natural selection to Dr. Charles Darwin, which also appeared in your columns; and, last of all, his engagement on *Punch*, to which publication he contributed some admirable sketches, full of fun and fancy, and containing likenesses of public characters which were thoroughly unmistakable.

A large section of the citizens of London are just now making a decided stand against the Metropolitan Improvement Bill, at present before the House of Commons; and in this the said citizens may be fully justified, though it is difficult to understand how improvements are to be made without taxes being levied with which to defray the costs. But the denizens of the City have at least this advantage, that, if they pay for improvements, they get them, and some, too, for which other folk pay. There is no part of central London, and I may add western, and to a large extent northern London, which has not received some attention from the Metropolitan Board of Works, and that has not had a return in the form of good general drainage and decently-made roads for the taxes paid. It is very different, if one may judge by appearances, in the south and south-eastern districts. Do any of your readers ever go to Greenwich, for instance—I suppose some must do so occasionally, to dine at the Ship, say—and have taken note of the prospect to be seen from the windows of the railway carriages? If so, they will have observed that all the way from London Bridge station through part of the Borough, Bermondsey, Deptford, and West Greenwich, there is no trace of drainage or sewers, and very little of road-making. Every street seems to be a veritable "slough of despond," masses of mud and pools of filthy water occupying the places where roads and footways ought to be. This is very deplorable in so low-lying a district, where cleanliness and dryness are so essential to health. No wonder that the south of London rivals the east in swelling the bills of mortality at all times, and during the late cholera visitation especially. The residents in these districts have to pay rates just the same as those in other parts of the metropolis; and, being so neglected, have good reason to complain that Mr. Thwaites and his colleagues spend their money on districts and on works much less needy of improvement than the quarters I have named. To ornament the metropolis is all very well in its way; but to make every nook and corner of it wholesome and fit for human beings to live in, is a much more urgent as well as more important work. I hope the Metropolitan Board and its local coadjutors will earnestly address themselves to this task; and, having done their own duty, will see that landlords do theirs in laying pavements and in connecting the house-drains with the sewers. The

offences to both eyes and nostrils which I suffered on the Greenwich line the other day will then be obviated; and full time it is they were so, for they are rank indeed. I am aware that the construction of the main south level sewer kept other portions of the drainage work in abeyance for a time, but it is now more than a year, I think, since the great culvert was completed and the works at Erith were opened; so some move ought surely to be made with the details of the drainage in the southern and south-eastern districts. I have not had an opportunity of seeing how matters stand to the south-west—in Lambeth, and up Battersea way, that is—but I fear a similar state of things obtains there likewise. The poorest regions are generally the last attended to in such matters; but, unfortunately, the poorest districts in this case are those in which the need of drainage is most urgent. The inference is obvious. I hope Thwaites and Company can take a hint.

## THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

## THE MAGAZINES.

It is much more than the accident of seniority or traditional position which this month places *Blackwood* at the head of the list of magazines. *Maga* contains an article on Elizabeth of England and Mary Queen of Scots, which is so excellent, and in many respects so novel, that it is hardly possible to speak too strongly of it. Whether one agrees with all the author's opinions or not, one cannot help admiring a passage so full of true poetic discrimination as the following:—“The enthusiasm inspired by the captive never, except in the unsavoury shape of a mob's applause, rose round the English Queen. Her vanity was poorly satisfied, if it was satisfied at all, by the princely candidates among whom she was so vainly entreated to choose a husband. Her love was more poorly satisfied still.... Yet in all this she was but reaping as she sowed. Into no action of her life did she ever throw herself fully with her entire heart and will, and from nobody did she receive, or, perhaps, could she receive, more than she gave. A mind always under the sway of secondary motives cannot expect, and has no right to, the power of calling forth the profounder primitive emotions in others.” In the abandonment and occasional too-muchness of this writer's manner I recognise another hand; but if the above sentences had been shown to me alone I should at once have attributed them to George Eliot. The paper on “Japan” I also like much.

In the *Cornhill*, the sensation article is one upon “Life in a Military Prison”—a horrible story, told by, I suppose, a Scotchman; at all events, by a man who, for a trifling fault, had been on the wrong side of a soldier's gaol. The general conclusion of the article is that, “if the punishments of the British soldier be not mitigated and the pensions augmented, the day is not far distant when, to recruit the ranks, British factories and workshops will have to be decimated by the conscription.” Upon “The Claverings” let us venture no more criticism till it is finished. Interesting and pathetic, of course, it is: whether it is, or can be, a satisfactory story is another question.

The “Gleanings after the Biographers of Charles Lamb,” in *Macmillan*, constitutes, perhaps, the most fascinating paper of the month. These gleanings do more to present the man and his sister to us as they really lived and moved than all the hundreds of pages one must have read about them. Professor Max Müller, on “Jews in Cornwall” (?), writes a paper which has all the charm of a game of chess. Then, taking into account the deeply-interesting little essay, “Philosophy in Cuneiform,” I feel compelled to say *Macmillan* for April is a number of unusually high attraction. Latterly it has not been so bright as it might have been. Mrs. Norton's story is again interrupted. I would particularly call the attention of the reader to the Charles Lamb gleanings. Perhaps, to the list of Lamb's poems, which are worth remembering, the author would not refuse to add the very droll lines about music, which run off something like this (I have no books at hand):—

Some cry up Haydn, some Mozart,  
And some Rossini. For my part  
I do not care a farthing candle  
For either of them, nor for Handel.  
Cannot a man live free and easy  
That does not worship Pergolesi?  
Or through the world with comfort go  
That never heard of Doctor Blow?  
So help me, Heaven! I hardly have,  
And yet I eat, and drink, and shave,  
Like other people, if you watch it,  
Yet know no more of stave or crotchet  
Than did the primitive Peruvians  
Or those old ante-queer-diluvians  
That liv'd in the unwash'd world with Jubal,  
Before that dirty blacksmith Tubal,  
By stroke on anvil or on summut  
Found out, to his great surprise, the gamut.

This is imperfect and rough, but it will give anybody an idea of the gaiety of the little poem in question.

*Belgravia* (Miss Braddon's) exhibits the usual characteristics—plenty of illustrations and plenty of reading, mostly of the same order. The leading story, “Birds of Prey,” is not of the kind to please me. “Circe,” familiar to us by name on a thousand dead walls, is spirited, but vicious in conception, and rather blatant in manner. Still, it is readable.

In *London Society* I have already said I like “Playing for High Stakes.” The author has gone on steadily improving from the first, and will, I hope, neither work too hard, so as to thin her best vein, nor neglect the study of good models. The illustrations in the present number are unusually good; and the verses, “Society in Japan,” signed “W. J. P.,” are the best of the kind I have seen for a long time. The “Sketches of the Bench and Bar” are crowded with senseless and most audacious repetitions.

The author of “Archie Lovell,” who is an agreeable writer, begins a new story in this month's *Temple Bar*. Mr. Yates gives a pleasant account of the “House of Charity” in Soho-square. The author of an article on Watches coolly calls Swedenborg a “respectable old enthusiast.” Anything else in a small way, Sir? Which prophet or apostle would you like to put on their back?

“Joyce Damer's Story,” just ended in *Once a Week*, which is a capital number, deserves a special word. It is a very good, pure story. The sketches of music-halls and music-hall people are felicitously touched.

In the *Argosy* I have noticed lately a new signature—“S. A. D. I.,” and it is that of a writer evidently young, and evidently full of vivacity and poetic intelligence. “The Doom of the Prynnes” is not natural, but some of the verses have the true ring with them. Lieutenant Foozy is full of animal spirits and humour, but he does not manage his *persona* well. Can there be pleasanter reading than “A German University Town?” Pleasant is not the word to apply to “Robert Falconer,” though pleasant it surely is. The March number was the first instalment we have yet had of this, the most remarkable story now running in the periodicals. And I do not even except from that description the “London Story” of “Guild Court,” so beautifully told in *Good Words* from month to month by Mr. George Macdonald, the Novalis of our own literature.

A new sixpenny magazine, I see, is announced, under the title of *The London*. I shall gladly welcome the new candidate for public favour, though it would have been better taste, I think, to have heralded the publication with somewhat less of “bounce.” The prospectus is full of big promises, which may be fulfilled; but I have noticed that large promises are generally followed by meagre performance. I hope *The London* may prove an exception to the rule.

“The Last Chronicle of Barset” still holds on its course, and, while exhibiting Mr. Trollope's powers in their best developments, does not make any rapid strides towards a dénouement; in other words, the story, *qua* a story, does not make much progress. What Mr. Trollope certainly does do, however, is this: by exposing the abuses in the Church, as exhibited in the persons and system of rule of Bishop Prudie, his wife, and their satellites, he aids materially in bringing that venerable corporation into contempt, if not hatred. So far Mr. Trollope may be regarded by those interested in maintaining all things as they are, as guilty of treason to the “time-honoured,” &c., institu-

tion, while others may think that he does a good service to the community at large. In like manner he, a civil servant himself, may be thought to defile his own nest by delineating the burlesque upon work performed in the department with which Sir Raffle Buffe and others are connected. This work, however, has already been performed by an able hand (it is no disparagement of Mr. Trollope to rank him second to Charles Dickens); and therefore the sketches of official life in “The Last Chronicle of Barset” fail to strike the reader so forcibly as they otherwise would do. The immortal Barnacles family eclipse all pictures painted from the same class of models. I don't know whether Mr. Trollope means his ecclesiastical and official portraiture to have the effect that they have had upon me, at least, and I should think upon other readers also; but, whether or not, he is doing a good work, and one for which the public are some day to give him thanks.

I have received my copy of the fourth volume of the new series of *Fun*—that is, the fourth volume edited by Mr. Tom Hood—and am glad to find, on a re-examination of its pages, that it is, both as regards pictures and literature, fully up to the mark of its predecessors; and that, I reckon, is no small praise. Mr. Hood and his coadjutors do their work deftly, and certainly supply abundance of wholesome “fun”—and much valuable instruction, too—for the million. Of course, I can see faults and weaknesses, sitting here quietly in my room, and scanning the work with a critic's eye; but the merits much outweigh the defects. So I, at least, am not disposed to pick holes in the coat of our motley friend. May he prosper!

## THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

The past week has been very barren of theatrical “events.” In almost every case the pieces that have been played for the last few weeks are depended upon by the management that produced them to stave over the interval between this and Easter. The playbills present a curious spectacle just now. The rabid demand for novelty at any cost that has characterised the last two years has been succeeded by a reaction in favour of revivals, and almost every important theatre in London includes one or more *rechauffés* in its bill of fare. “Rob Roy” at Drury Lane, “The Heir at Law” and “The Serious Family” at the Haymarket; “The Duke's Motto” at the Lyceum, “Never Too Late to Mend” at the Princess's; “Lavater,” “The Liar,” and “A Romantic Idea” at the Olympic; “The Merry Widow” and “The School for Scandal” at the St. James's; “Esmeralda” at the Strand; “One Hundred Thousand Pounds” and “The Maid and the Magpie” at the Prince of Wales's; and “The Flowers of the Forest” and “The Nymph of the Lurleyburg” at Astley's. Probably such an array of secondhand attractions is unprecedented in London. Most of the revivals are good pieces, and one, “The Liar,” has proved a very godsend to the management of the Olympic. But it does seem rather hard on modern dramatic authors that theatrical managers should turn resurrectionists in this wholesale fashion. There is surely no good reason to suppose that there is any actual dearth of dramatic talent nowadays. Among the thousands of manuscripts lying unread in the different managers' rooms of the metropolis there surely must be some that are worth producing. I have a personal knowledge of a piece which was left at eight London stage doors, one after the other, by the unfortunate author, and rejected with quiet contempt by the eight managers; but which, owing to a curious fluke, at length saw the light in a leading West-End theatre, and proved to be a triumphant success. Publishers read the MSS. left by unknown authors; why not theatrical managers? The answer is that theatrical managers belong, as a rule, to an ignorant and prejudiced class, who are wholly unequal to the task of pronouncing upon the merit of a piece as long as it is in manuscript; and they know it. Publishers are not a particularly well-informed class of men, but they have the good sense to employ gentlemen of education and discernment, whose duty it is to examine MSS. and pronounce upon them; and until theatrical managers adopt some such plan, we shall have to submit to a series of “hash-ups,” which, good as they were when first served up, have an unmistakable secondhand flavour about them which there is no disguising.

The success of “The Liar” at the Olympic has induced the management of the ST. JAMES'S to revive a forgotten old farce, by Mr. Kimpton, called “He Lies Like Truth.” The main incidents bear some resemblance to those in “The Liar”; but the piece is much more clumsy in construction, and the dialogue is simply childish. It affords Mr. Walter Lacy an opportunity of rattling through a long part with amusing coolness.

Mr. B. Webster, jun., has an adaptation in rehearsal at the OLYMPIC. Mr. Robertson's comedy, “Caste,” will be played at the PRINCE OF WALES's to-night. Among the Easter novelties are a drama, by Mr. Halliday, at DRURY LANE; and burlesques, by Mr. W. Brough and Mr. Burnand, at the STRAND and OLYMPIC. “Flying Scud” retains its position in the HOLBORN bills, and “Black-eyed Susan” will probably prolong its triumphant career until May or June. Both these pieces are to be succeeded by burlesques from the pen of Mr. W. S. Gilbert.

I hear that Mr. Vining is about to retire from professional life, and that he is to be succeeded at the PRINCESS'S by an enterprising provincial manager.

## MR. GLADSTONE AND THE REFORM LEAGUE.

On Saturday afternoon last a deputation, consisting of the council and several of the most prominent members of the Reform League, waited upon Mr. Gladstone, by appointment, at his residence, No. 11, Carlton House-terrace, for the purpose of informing him of their opinions respecting certain clauses in the Government Reform Bill.

Mr. Beales, president of the League, introduced the deputation, and said:—As the present bill for a reform of the representation of the people seems to be now transferred more or less from the Government to the Parliament, we who, as the council of the Reform League, represent, as evidenced by the large, enthusiastic, and unanimous meetings which we have held in the metropolis and in almost every part of the kingdom, the feelings and opinions of the great majority of the working classes and of the people generally, think it right to confer at this crisis with you, whom we deeply respect and honour as the leader of the Liberal members of the House of Commons, on the question as to how the bill can be made as satisfactory as possible to those whom we thus represent. You are aware, Sir, that the principles of the Reform League are—residential and registered manhood suffrage, protected in its free and independent exercise by the ballot. These principles, as advocated by us, have met with the most unanimous and enthusiastic support from the great body of the people, and we still think that, in point of justice, and simplicity, and constitutional right, they surpass every other plan of reform, and immeasurably, in these qualities, surpass the present bill, and that the nearer the present bill is brought into harmony with these principles the more is it likely to prove satisfactory to the people and to be a permanent settlement of the question. We wholly object, then, to the ratemaking clauses in the bill, especially to that part of the bill which makes the title to the electoral franchise dependent upon the actual payment of rates by the voter.

Mr. Gladstone—We abolished the ratemaking clauses in our bill of last year (cheers).

Mr. Beales—We think our principle of residential and registered manhood suffrage right, for it gives the vote to every payer of indirect taxes. Upon this ground we now insist the rated householder, whether occupier or otherwise, is a taxpayer as well as a ratemake. The mere fact of the name of the occupier being on the ratebook should entitle him to be placed on the register, and he ought not to be deprived of his vote in the shape of a forfeit (hear, hear).

Mr. Gladstone—There was a provision for that in our bill of last year (cheers).

Mr. Beales—We claim a lodger franchise, and, in fact, a bill without it would be an insult and a mockery.

Mr. Gladstone—Hear, hear.

Mr. Beales—A large number of the skilled artisans and also numbers of other ranks in London live in lodgings. The lodger franchise is no more to be limited by the amount of rent than the householder. We do not want a vote for the pauper or the convict; we only want it for those who show their residence, and that we effect, as we consider, by two principles—registration and residence. We come to you with the greatest respect as the leader of the Liberal party in the House of Commons—(cheers)—and inform you of our views at this crisis, leaving you to act with regard to them as you, in your judgment, may think right and best. I believe I have expressed the opinions of those present (hear, hear); but there may be two or three working men who would, perhaps, like to supply anything which I may have omitted, if you would give them permission to speak.

Mr. Gladstone—I shall be most happy to hear anything which they may have to say.

Mr. Westerton drew the attention of the right hon. gentleman to the savings bank qualification. As a rule, he said, those men who were disposed to save took little or no interest in the political movements. They were entirely outside the political circle. They took no interest in trade movements; they were intensely selfish.

Mr. Gladstone—Selfish?

Mr. Westerton—Yes, intensely selfish (Some members of the deputation seemed to dissent). To give the franchise to them, and to leave others to struggle for their political rights and the maintenance and advancement of their privileges as regards trade, was not pleasing.

Mr. Perfit thought there might be a difference of opinion respecting what Mr. Westerton had said upon the savings bank clause.

Mr. Gladstone (laughingly)—Just so; I think Mr. Westerton was a little harsh. He was carried away, as we say, by the heat of debate (Laughter). I should say, with regard to this franchise, that the view with which the savings bank clause was proposed last year had reference to the country. If you speak with regard to towns, a good occupying franchise and a good lodger franchise must be regarded as a proposed basis of enfranchisement. There is a great number of intelligent and industrious men in the country—where, as a class of course, the labouring men are not so much advanced—qualified to exercise the franchise; and it was pressed upon us at the time to consider the principle of selection. It was said to us, “We do not want a swamping or indiscriminate admission,” and we framed the bill in a spirit of extreme conciliation (hear, hear). And we inserted it mainly in the hope of assuaging the hostility which we had to encounter, rather than because we believed it to be a vitally important principle (hear, hear). It was a measure of conciliation. I am bound to say that the reception of that part of the proposal convinced me it would not pass. It would have been faintly supported and keenly opposed. I felt convinced it would not pass. It would have had no effect on the general scheme. With regard to the general scheme, I must express my gratitude for the sentiments of confidence which have been uttered; I really feel it does not depend upon precise identity of opinion. I am greatly obliged that you are good enough to entertain the opinion that my purpose is straightforward. I mean to adhere to it like a man (Cheers). It is your desire to obtain a measure as nearly like your principles as possible; but, as I understand, you would accept, not an illusory, but a substantial, a useful, and a valuable measure, even if there were some among you who might think that it was capable of further improvement. You are in this matter spoken in the same sense as another deputation which I had the pleasure to receive here last Saturday—a deputation from the London Working Men's Association; and which, I imagine, is to a considerable extent in harmony and sympathy with you, though you are not identical. Those gentlemen spoke in the same terms of moderation. I need not dwell on any particular point which you have laid down. You are aware of my own opinions as declared elsewhere during the past few weeks. There is no doubt there is one most outrageous proposition contained in the bill—that with regard to dual voting (hear, hear). That has been abandoned; that has gone. You need not trouble yourselves respecting it any further. With regard to all the other propositions the Government, by the speeches of some of its members, certainly might have been understood to adhere to them; but in the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer no such clear intention was expressed. But no pledge or promise has been given for the alteration of any clause excepting that of the dual voting. I intend to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday night whether it is the intention of her Majesty's Government to make any alteration in the arrangement or the provisions of the bill for amending the representation of the people before inviting the House to discuss the clauses in Committee; and whether he is willing to lay upon the table the reports or other documents from which he quoted on Tuesday the opinions of the present and late chairman of the Board of Inland Revenue respecting the proposed taxing franchise. You may rely upon it—I speak for myself—I will be no assenting party to an inefficient measure (hear, hear)—or to any step which will tend to destroy or diminish the means of securing an efficient measure, and in which, as you have stated, the metropolis is specially interested. It is idle to speak of a bill for the “amendment of the representation of the people” which imposes or continues unnecessary restrictions upon the votes of the compound householders and makes no provision for the lodger franchise (hear, hear). When I speak of the lodger franchise I mean one which shall do for the working men of London the same thing as a good occupying franchise will do for the working men in towns, say, like Leeds. In London many working men have to live in lodgings, who, if they resided in the country, would have houses (Hear, hear). After some discussion as to the lodger franchise, Mr. Gladstone said he did not entirely abandon the hope that there might be a settlement. His opinion was that, under the present £10 franchise, and without the law giving a good lodger franchise, there was a diminution in the number of working men having votes. If they got a proper occupying and lodger franchise in fair proportion, that would no longer be the case. There would be a self-extending power which we did not now possess. The right hon. gentleman then said—There is another subject upon which I wish to take the liberty of speaking to you, and upon which I have spoken to two or three—Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Kinnaird, and Mr. Stanfield. They take the same view respecting it as I do. I desire, with your permission, that they shall be present to hear what I have to say, and therefore I will ask them.

Mr. Beales expressed the pleasure which the deputation would feel at receiving any communication from Mr. Gladstone, and also at seeing those he had named.

Mr. Gladstone then left the room, and shortly after returned, in company with Lord Shaftesbury, the Right Hon. W. Cowper, and the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird.

The right hon. gentleman then said—It became known to me from many quarters that if there were a great assemblage or demonstration on Good Friday, such as had been intended with reference to the subject of Reform, a good deal of offence would arise. I confess I think it was possible. I think, also, that this was a matter upon which—especially at this juncture—there should be a uniform and strong desire to avoid giving such offence, if you could do so, even by waiving what you think a perfect and undoubted right. I communicated with Lord Shaftesbury, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Kinnaird, and Mr. Stanfield—who is not here—and I found that we were all inclined to take the same view of the matter. I therefore submit to you, with all respect, whether it would not be wise and judicious, if possible, to select some other day than Good Friday. I do not at all wish to enter into any question of theology, or of a religious character, or to lay it before you as an obligation, but rather as an act which I am quite confident would be most favourably interpreted, and would do a great deal towards reconciling those who are estranged, and towards preventing any additional estrangement. It is most desirable that with this question of Reform there should not be mixed up any element of discord where it can be avoided. Accordingly, on my own part—and it is that of the gentlemen near me—I would very earnestly, very respectfully, and with many apologies—because it is an interference which I have no right to attempt, and which I can only excuse by the intention—suggest whether, having regard to those feelings I have stated, which exist in many quarters, and which are entitled to much respect, it would not be a wise plan to alter that design and fix some other day.

Mr. Beales—There was no intention of holding a meeting, but to have a promenade in Hyde Park. There was a question of holding it either on Good Friday or on Easter Monday. Individually, I objected to Good Friday, because I considered we should do nothing which could in any way offend the religious feeling or scruples of any portion of the community (hear, hear). There are many who, like Lord Shaftesbury, would consider that it was not a day on which a promenade should take place. In all probability we should have had it on the Easter Monday, but there happened to be a demonstration at Birmingham on that day, and most of us propose to attend it. That was one reason for fixing Good Friday. I think I can answer for my friends after what they have heard you express—and I think I may say at once—if you only object to the day in compliance with the feelings you have stated, we will select some other day.

After some further conversation the deputation withdrew, it being understood that the demonstration which had been fixed for Good Friday would not take place as far as the Reform League is concerned.

THE REPRESENTATION OF MIDDLESEX.—Two gentlemen in the Liberal interest are spoken of in connection with the vacancy in the representation of Middlesex which has just occurred by the death of Mr. R. C. Hanbury, namely, Mr. H. D. Labouchere, a nephew of Lord Taunton, and Mr. Samuel Morley. Mr. Labouchere has issued an address, in which he explains his political views. He served in the diplomatic department from 1851 to 1854. He was returned for Windsor in 1855 as a supporter of Lord Palmerston's Government, and is in favour of a temperate electoral reform and of the abolition of church rates. He lost his seat on petition. The Conservatives are getting up a requisition to Lord Ranleigh soliciting him to come forward as their candidate.

INCREASE OF PAY TO THE METROPOLITAN POLICE.—On Saturday last an order was read at all the metropolitan police-stations, stating that the following future increase of pay would be made to the metropolitan police force:—Chief Superintendent Walker an increase of £100 a year, making £425 per year; the other superintendents are to be raised £50, making £300, and the commissioners will select from the superintendents four to be raised another £25 per year, making £25 per year, one hundred inspectors are to receive £18 6s. per year increase, and for the present there is to be no increase for the first-class sergeants, who are only receiving £1 6s. per week; 200 of the second-class sergeants are to be raised from £1 6s. to £1 8s.; the first-class constables are to be increased from £1 6s. to £1 8s.; and the second-class, from £1 2s. to £1 3s.; the third and fourth class of constables are not to receive any increase.



ARRIVAL OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA IN BUDA-PESTH.

**THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA IN BUDA-PESTH.**  
The sister cities of Pesth and Buda had by an early hour on the morning of March 12 completed the brilliant toilette in which they had for some days been decking themselves to receive their Sovereign, who was about to visit them for the first time since a reconciliation had taken place between himself and his Hungarian subjects. Every street, almost every house, in both burghs was

tricked out with the national colours and the Hungarian arms; whilst the route selected for the King's transit from the station to his castle at Ofen was adorned by thousands of flags, numerous evergreen arches, and tall flagstaffs, painted tricolour, surmounted by massive emblazoned shields, and connected with one another by leafy ropes, from which again depended banners, graduated in size and varying in shape, but all red, white, and green, with the king-

dom's escutcheon depicted on the central band of white. The suspension-bridge was indeed a lovely object; its approaches and towers were surmounted by immense standards, and the chains sloping down either way from the summit of their supports were studded at intervals of a few feet with small tricolour pennons, producing an indescribably picturesque and gay effect. The railway station, a large low-roofed building,



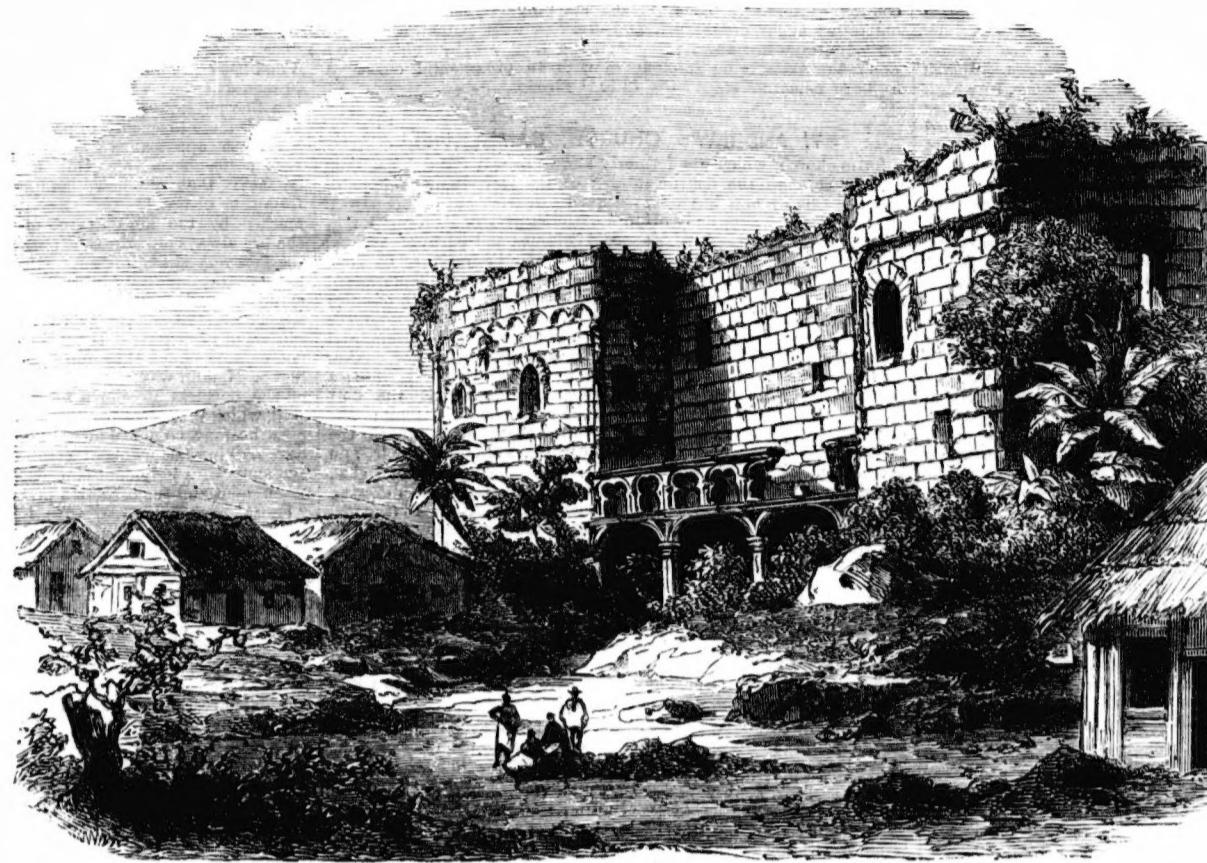
GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION AT POSILIPPO: ASPECT OF THE PLACE AFTER THE CATASTROPHE.

of no great architectural significance, had been entirely cleared of engines, carriages, and lumber; the space between the platforms covered with white sand; and a charming little retiring-room, with a tiny lavatory and a miniature conservatory, filled with choice exotics, attached to it, had been arranged by the railway authorities, who had laid down a splendid carpet from the line of rails upon which the Royal train was to arrive to the entrance of the temporary boudoir. Purple velvet curtains gathered back by massive gold cord, and surmounted at their point of junction by a Royal crown, Hungarian escutcheon, and the monograms of the Emperor and Empress intertwined, formed the approach to the so-called private Royal apartment; through which, however, the Ministers and great public functionaries followed his Majesty as he passed out of the station to his carriage, and in which a few privileged persons awaited the King's arrival.

The special correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* thus describes the event:—

"We arrived before one at the station, and, as the King was not to arrive till half-past two, had a good deal of time on our hands. Inspecting the local preparations, however, occupied half an hour, after which the Ministers Baron Eötvös; Counts Niko, Gorové, Lonyay, and Horvath, dropped one by one into the Royal waiting-room, and the other hour slipped rapidly away in agreeable conversation. Meanwhile the guard of honour, a hundred picked men of the Mecklenburg regiment, headed by their band, had taken up their position outside the station entrance, which was lined by civic guards. This was the extent of the military element in the whole ceremony. The municipal deputations and the clergy had posted themselves in their appointed places, and between 40,000 and 50,000 people had assembled round and near the Bahnhof. Suddenly a braided official entered the room and informed us that the Royal train had been signalled. After a brief interval, the train slowly glided into the station; and, standing on a small platform outside the Royal carriage, alone—his handsome figure drawn up to its full height—the King of Hungary appeared to us more like a stately picture than a living and breathing Monarch. It was a magnificent coup de théâtre. As soon as the eager, swaying crowd got him fully before their eyes, such a burst of enthusiasm broke forth as I have never yet heard greet a Monarch. A long shout of 'Elien!' that was half a sob, made the very roof and walls of the station quiver; and the Emperor's cheek grew very pale as he raised his shako in response. Francis Joseph appeared to great advantage in the splendid uniform of a Hungarian General of Division—pale blue, scarlet, white, and gold. He sprang lightly from the platform, advanced, bowing repeatedly and deeply to the Ministers, with whom he exchanged a few words, and then turned to the civic deputations in order to receive their loyal addresses. There I left him and proceeded to the castle.

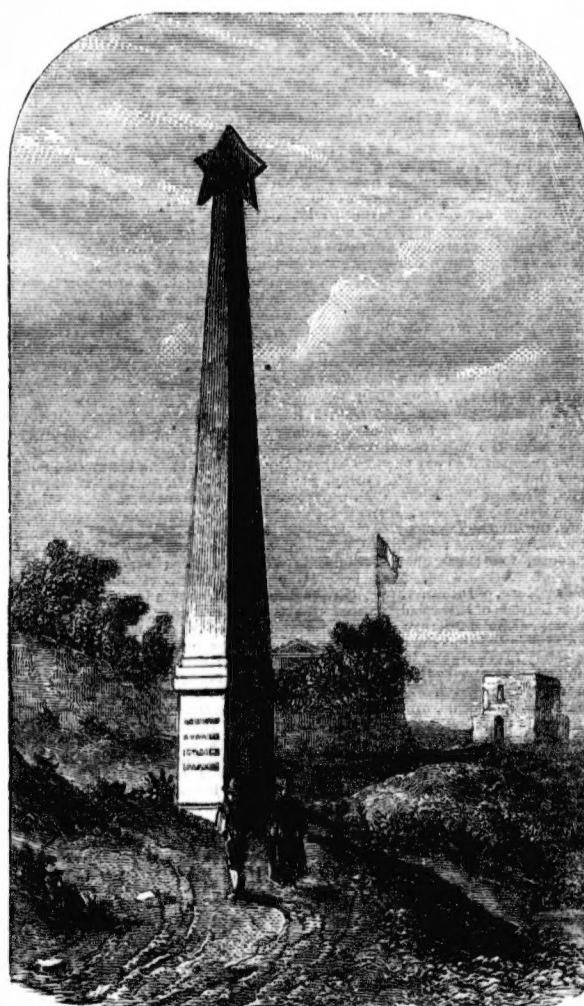
"What a sight the streets presented! Every scrap of carpet, velvet, tablecover, and bunting that could be collected had been hung out of the windows, which were thronged by ladies and children in bright-coloured dresses; two huge masses of people, divided by a thin streak of roadway, kept clear by citizens with drawn swords,



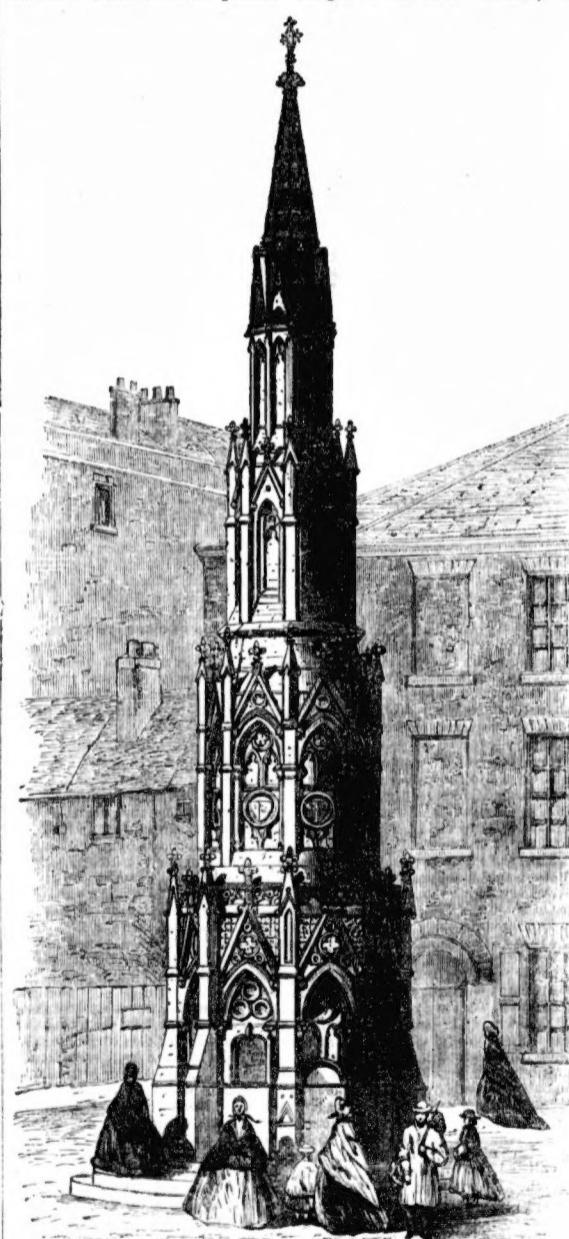
RUINS OF DIEGO COLUMBUS'S HOUSE IN ST. DOMINGO.

and girl with tricolour scarves, stretched from the very court of the Bahnhof to the chain-bridge, more than a mile of distance; clumps of dashing Hussars, pulks of grim-looking Uhlans, draped to their horses' tails in voluminous brown cloaks, scoured the free space, or sat like statues on their splendid chargers at the street corners; the

wheels into the spacious courtyard; we range in double line along the three rooms through which the King must pass ere he reaches his throne-room; another minute and he is among us, shako in hand, very pale, evidently agitated, but bowing gravely from side to side. The cry of 'Elien!' is carried up from the hall to the doorway; it catches, it spreads like fire in a thatch, till it gains the whole assembly of nobles; plumes wave wildly in air; the King looks proudly round him for a second; again the shout bursts out with one acclaim—he is forgiven! and the great magnates of his mightiest kingdom throng on his footsteps to pay him heartfelt homage. Shall it be wondered at if such a scene caused the tears to flow down more than one aged and venerable face, considering the memories of 1848 and the sufferings of later years?"

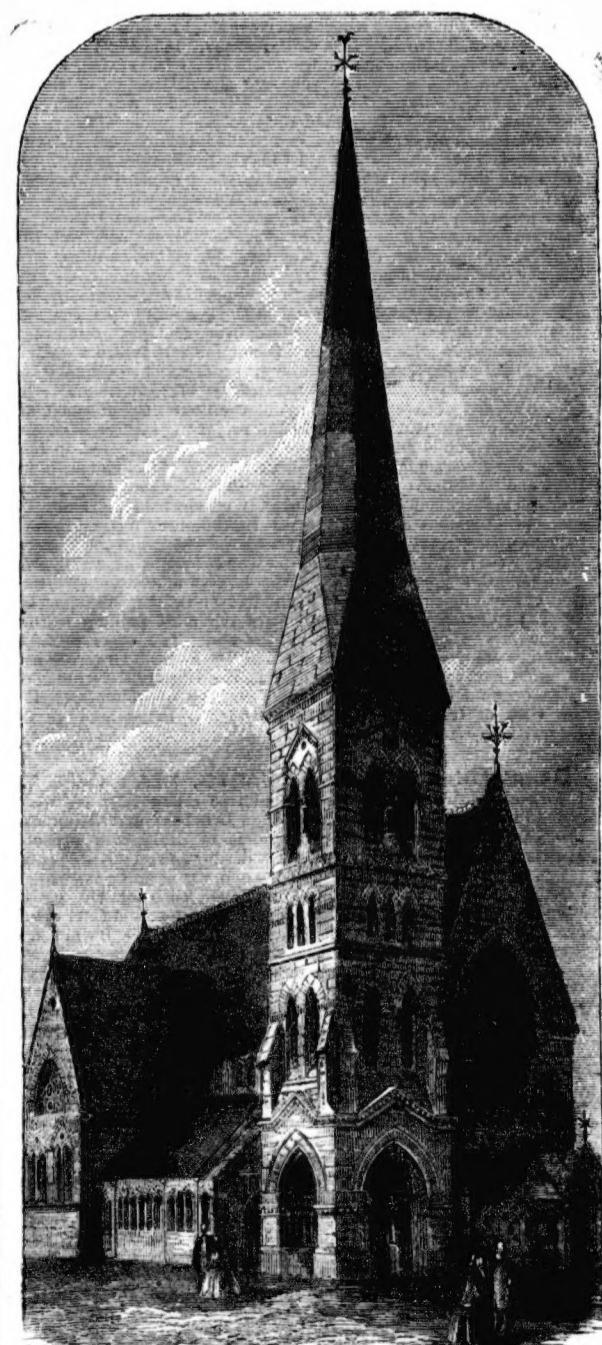


GARIBALDI MONUMENT, QUARTO, NEAR GENOA.



MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. JOHN WALTER AT NOTTINGHAM.

sun shone brightly on the multi-coloured costumes of the peasants and the bourgeoisie; and a certain barbaric element, exquisitely picturesque, pervaded the whole scene. On we go, through the cavalry pickets, over the bridge we fly rather than drive, and up the steep Ofen mountain leading to the Royal castle. Arrived at the Burg, we mounted the broad stone staircase, lined with Lifeguards, leading to the State apartments; upon entering which at a glance could be seen assembled the whole of Hungary and Transylvania's proud nobility, clad in garments of such variety and richness that, in sheer despair, I forbear attempting to give you anything like an adequate description of them. Diamonds, gold, furs to make a Russian Empress's mouth water, velvet mantles of triple pile and deep rich hues, jewelled scimitars, collars of noble orders in gold and brilliants, waving plumes; such was the coup d'œil that greeted me on my entrance into the



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, CAMBERWELL.—(BASSETT KEELING, ESQ., ARCHITECT.)

throne-room. Bathyanys, Ziehys, Festetics, Hunyadis, Almays, Esterhazys, Bethlens, Szentwanyas, and a hundred other noble families were represented by their various branches; and it was impossible not to remark the great personal beauty of the men bearing these ancient names. A few officers of the Archer Life Guard, in their scarlet and gold uniforms, white breeches, and huge steel casques with drooping white plumes, gave relief to the darker dresses of the Magyar nobles; whilst here and there the white Austrian uniform peeped out between masses of sombre richness. A few minutes, somewhat hot and nervous—for how many years of suffering were to be pardoned, what floods of tears and blood dried up for ever in the event of the next moments!—and a roar from the hillside told us the King was crossing the bridge. Preceded by two burgomasters, escorted by the Banderines (free horsemen) of Pesth and Ofen, followed by the Ministers, a glittering suite, and a squadron of national hussars, his Majesty drove slowly over the bridge and commenced the ascent of the hill. Another short interval of breathless suspense, and the military bands struck up the Austrian hymn; a carriage

**EXPLOSION AT POSILIPPO, NAPLES.**

DURING the forenoon of Feb. 22 a terrific shock, as of an earthquake, startled the inhabitants of Naples generally, but especially those resident in the district of the city adjoining the powder-magazines, and great consternation was felt when a volume of smoke and fire, together with bricks, stones, and other materials, rose high above the point of Posilippo. At first it was thought a new crater must have opened in Vesuvius, but on inquiry it was ascertained that a powder-magazine had exploded, causing great loss of life and damaging the villas in that neighbourhood. The explosion, it is believed, was an act of despair on the part of the officer, D'Acunto by name, in charge of the post, and whose depredations on the military stores were well known. On being summoned by a carabinier sent to arrest him, he requested a few moments that he might get his papers, and then deliberately went and threw a lighted brand into the room in which he had deposited the produce of his thefts.

A correspondent, writing a few days after the catastrophe, says:—“The work of excavation is still going on, and up to the present time it is supposed by the police authorities that sixty-three persons who were on the site of the catastrophe are missing. Of these the fate of five is uncertain; eleven are severely wounded and in hospital; forty-five are dead, twenty-one of whom were blown to atoms; of nine others the bodies have been found. Among those who have lost their lives are four soldiers, a lieutenant in the navy, five officials of public security, the rest being workmen or artisans, several women, and ten children. Had the powder-magazines in the neighbourhood of the depository of the thefts been blown up, it is impossible to calculate what would have been the amount of disaster, for in that appropriated to the marine service there were 1600 tons of powder, and in that belonging to the artillery 600 tons. Such are the elements of destruction lying under the rich and beautiful district of Posilippo, and close to the populous city of Naples. In the house which the criminal had taken wherein to deposit his thefts were ten quintals of powder; from time to time he was in the habit of adding to the stock, and being in the naval service, he had no difficulty in passing it through the hands of the Custom-house authorities, and sending it to a relative in the Basso Porto, by whom it was sold. This man has been arrested. There was nothing political in the affair as far as I can make out; D'Acunto plundered for his own personal interest.”

**THE HOUSE OF COLUMBUS AT SAN DOMINGO.**

PERIODICALLY ever since it became a republic Hayti has been the scene of excitement, and seems in some sort to have represented the fervid unrest of the inhabitants of the West India Islands. The Haytian Republic has for the second time regained its independence, in spite of Spanish rule, and once more the interest of Europe has been excited by the old city of San Domingo. This town was originally founded on the east bank of the Ozama, in the Caribbean Sea, in 1496, by Bartholomew Columbus, the brother of the great circumnavigator, who gave it the name of New Isabel, for which that of San Domingo was afterwards substituted. In consequence of a great hurricane which laid the town in ruins, in 1502, it was transferred to its present site, the western bank of the river, by Nicholas Ovando, the great Commander of Alcantara, and advanced so rapidly that it was worthy of being called the first metropolis of the New World. Oviedo in describing it to Charles V., in 1528, declares it equal to any city of Spain in respect of the beauty of its situation and the magnificence of its buildings. It was afterwards created a tribunal of justice, and still later a bishopric by Pope Paul III. The first blow to its prosperity was struck by Sir Francis Drake, who, in 1586, took it by assault, pillaged, and nearly destroyed it. In 1664 France invaded the western part of San Domingo, now the Republic of Hayti, and there formed an establishment which was recognised by Spain, in 1697, in the Treaty of Ryswick. The earthquakes of 1684 and 1691 ruined most of the magnificent buildings which Drake had spared, and the French occupation seemed to complete the destruction of the old capital of Columbus. In 1730 its decrepitude was such that the white population amounted only to 6000 souls. The treaty of delimitation of 1777 put an end to the incessant quarrels of the frontier, and opened an era of quietude for the Spanish colony. This continued until 1794, when the disturbances resulted in declaring France master of the Spanish territory. It was not till 1801, however, that possession was claimed by the entry of Toussaint L'Ouverture into San Domingo. A succession of struggles followed, and, from 1822 to 1824, the spoliation of the Haytians during their occupation of the city deprived it of many of the most interesting monuments still remaining. In 1861 Spain once more annexed her ancient colony, but, after a severe contest, which was prolonged until last year, the Dominicans have regained their independence and once more constituted themselves a Republic. San Domingo itself is still a striking city, extending for about half a mile in breadth and length, and surrounded by walls flanked with bastions. It is regularly built; but the streets are unpaved, and many of the houses are of wood, and only have one story, with flat roofs and projecting lattices. The most conspicuous public building is the cathedral, commenced in 1514, during the governorship of Don Diego, the son of Columbus; it is a large and handsome Gothic structure, with a lofty roof, supported by fourteen massive columns, and has a richly-ornamented high altar. The ashes of Columbus and his brother Bartholomew reposed in it for nearly two centuries and a half; but on the cession of the island to France were removed to Havannah. The convents, of which there were several, are now in ruins. The largest and most celebrated, that of San Francisco, during its greatest splendour, contained 300 monks; its extensive ruins form one of the most striking features of the city when approached by the sea. The other principal buildings are the National Palace, where the Spanish Governor used to reside, and, immediately adjoining it, the ruins of the strange old castle once the palace of Don Diego, the son of Columbus. It is the view of this ancient building which is represented in our Engraving.

**CARIBALDI MONUMENT, QUARTO, NEAR GENOA.**

THE expedition of General Garibaldi to Sicily in 1860, which ended in the expulsion of the Neapolitan Bourbons and the annexation of their domains to the kingdom of Italy, will probably always be regarded as one of the most daring and remarkable enterprises on record. The greatness of the end, the seeming inadequacy of the means, and the unwavering confidence of the gallant “Thousand of Marsala” in themselves, their cause, and their dauntless and high-souled leader, all combine to make the liberation of Sicily and Naples one of the most wonderful achievements history has had to relate. To commemorate this event, a monument in white marble, of which we this week publish an Engraving, has been erected at Quarto, a village a few miles east of Genoa, and the spot whence Garibaldi started on the memorable 5th of May, 1860.

**MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. JOHN WALTER.**

A MEMORIAL fountain, to the memory of the late Mr. John Walter, of the *Times*, was lately erected in Nottingham, which town he represented in Parliament for some years. The fountain is of Gothic character, highly decorated, and of octagonal form. It rises, in four stages, to a height of 40 ft., the diameter at the base being 12 ft. Four basins of polished Aberdeen granite occupy four sides of the lower stage, the other four compartments being filled in with suitable inscriptions. Immediately above the basins on two sides are spaces filled with medallion portraits of Mr. Walter, in white marble, considerably recessed, under traceried canopies. The first stage is surrounded by a trefoil-pierced parapet. The eight compartments are finished with gables having carved finials at the apex. The flat surface is relieved with diapered work. At the eight angles are buttresses, relieved with various pinnacles, &c. These are carried up throughout three stages, and add much to the effect of the general outline. The second stage consists of a series of pointed arches under gables, filled in with traceried, the lower portion containing shields bearing the town arms. The shafts in this stage are of red Mansfield stone, having carved caps. The third

stage, of diminished diameter, rises from the second stage, being connected therewith by a vertical stepping. This stage has the buttresses again diminished, and finished with pinnacles having carved terminals. From this stage the lines are brought up to a point, the apex being surmounted with an ornamental cross. A flight of octagonal steps leads up to the basins.

**ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, CAMBERWELL.**

THIS church, which was formerly known as All Saints', has been erected through the instrumentality of the Rev. Daniel Moore, of Camden Chapel, and has been assigned a district out of his parish. It is constructed externally of four varieties of stone—Kentish rag, laid in “drop courses”; red Mansfield columns and parts of arches; the general dressings of yellow, with a small admixture of blue, Bath; and bands of both Bath and red Mansfield stone. The roofs of the nave, north aisle, transept, and chancel are covered with bundled Staffordshire roofing-tiles of a small size, with a bright red ridge tile and cresting; the roofs of the western porch, spire, sacristy, and organ-chamber are covered with blue and pink Bangor slates. The interior plan consists of a nave 90 ft. long by 35 ft. wide; a north aisle 45 ft. long by 15 ft. wide, terminating at the east end in a transept 27 ft. in width by 21 ft. 6 in. long; the chancel, which is 24 ft. wide, is raised four steps above the level of the nave, and contains only the stalls for choir and the reading-desks, of which there are two, one on each side, being a continuation of the back row of choir-stalls, but differing from them in design. Beyond the chancel is a sacristy, 18 ft. wide, with apsidal east end, and raised one step above the chancel, making the total internal length of the church 125 ft. The height of the west gable of the nave is 56 ft., the tower 66 ft., and to the top of the spire 140 ft. The church will seat 900 adults, allowing 20 in. sitting space for each person, the seats being 2 ft. 8 in. wide. The total cost, inclusive of stained glass, carving and decorations, the inclosure of the site, and a bell, will be about £5600. The organ was a private gift by two gentlemen of the committee. It is by Messrs. Bevington and Sons, has sixteen stops, and cost about £400.

**THE BISHOP OF LONDON** has taken the decided step of proceeding against Mr. Maconochie, Incumbent of St. Alban's, Holborn, by letters of request, in the Court of Arches, without the usual preliminary inquiry by commission under the Church Discipline Act. Great importance is attached to these proceedings, as they will at once raise the question of legality in respect to the more prominent parts of ultra-ritualistic practice.

**COUNT BISMARCK ON UNIVERSAL AND DIRECT SUFFRAGE.**—Count Bismarck made the following observations in the German Parliament last week:—“Universal suffrage is a legacy which has been transmitted to us by the national aspiration for German unity. The Governments would prefer a different system, but they have not proposed any substitute. I know nothing more absurd or more pitiful than the Prussian law which sanctions election by classes and by indirect suffrage, caprice and harshness accompanying the tax-rated suffrage. It would not be prudent to combine the right to the suffrage with social or class distinctions. Indirect suffrage alters the expression of public opinion; direct and universal suffrage will introduce talent into Parliament.” These observations were received with loud cheers. In the same sitting, vote by ballot and the eligibility of all public functionaries, including ecclesiastics and judges, were adopted.

**PROPOSED WORKS-OF-ART EXHIBITION AT LEEDS.**—A movement has been set on foot for the holding of a national exhibition of works of art at Leeds next year. The exhibition is to be specially devoted to the interests of art and to the extension of a taste for and knowledge of its best productions in painting and sculpture throughout England; and the result contemplated is the establishment, first of all in Leeds and afterwards in every town of importance throughout the country, of local public galleries of art, in which painting and sculpture shall hold the most prominent places. The exhibition is, therefore, a matter of some national importance. The new infirmary at Leeds, which is quickly approaching completion, has been decided upon as the building wherein to hold the exhibition. Judging by the information we have at hand, no better place could be hit upon. The new infirmary in Leeds is looked upon as the most perfect and noble work of its class in Europe. That it fully sustains the high reputation which its architect, Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, has gained for himself is, perhaps, as good a eulogium as could be passed on the building. Although differing entirely, as regards its plan, from any buildings in which former exhibitions have been held, it nevertheless appears to be well suited to the purposes of a fine-art exhibition, whilst as a depository for valuable works of art it has these three great advantages over all former buildings—it is perfectly ventilated, and is fireproof and watertight. It is, besides, a strong, solid, permanent building, so that the treasures of art deposited therein may be looked upon as safe, and perhaps safer than on the walls of their owners. It speaks well for the success of the movement that when the scheme was mooted by the members of the building committee of the new infirmary it was quickly afterwards warmly received by their fellow-citizens. In less than a month a guarantee fund of £110,000 was raised. So as to properly carry out the movement and assure for it that national character which its promoters desire, a “committee of advice” has been appointed, who will carry on their operations in London, and for whose accommodation offices have already been taken in Suffolk-street, Pall-mall. Lord Frederick Cavendish, M.P., is chairman; and its members include Earl Stanhope, Viscount Milton, Viscount Nevill, the Hon. Cecil Duncombe; Sir W. Stirling Maxwell, Bart., M.P.; Sir Francis Grant; Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P.; Mr. Hepworth Dixon, Mr. T. Fairbairn (Royal Commissioner of 1862 Exhibition); Mr. Layard, M.P.; Baron Marochetti, Mr. F. T. Palgrave, Mr. R. Redgrave, Mr. J. Ruskin, Mr. J. Gilbert Scott, and Mr. Digby Wyatt. The exhibition has received the special encouragement of the Queen, who has become its patron. Earl Fitzwilliam is its president, and in its list of vice-presidents is to be seen a large array of peers and members of Parliament. The exhibition promises to be a very great success, and promises also to leave after it some lastingly good traces. The accomplishment of these desirable results depends much upon those who have been the managers of the affair.

**RECRUITING FOR THE ARMY.**—The revised regulations for conducting the recruiting service to be substituted for pages 314 to 318 of the Queen's Regulations and Orders for the Army, have just been promulgated. They contain a schedule showing the age and standard of recruits on enlistment for the different arms of the service. In the heavy cavalry the height of the recruit is to be from 5 ft. 8 in. to 5 ft. 11 in.; in the medium, from 5 ft. 7 in. to 5 ft. 9 in.; and in the light cavalry, from 5 ft. 6 in. to 5 ft. 8 in. If under 5 ft. 8 in., the chest measurement must be 33 in.; under 5 ft. 10 in., 34 in.; and above that standard, 35 in. The age of the recruits is not to be under eighteen nor beyond twenty-five years. Gunners for the artillery may be enlisted from 5 ft. 7 in., between the same ages; and growing lads of seventeen and upwards may be taken at 5 ft. 6 in. The standard for drivers is 5 ft. 4 in. to 5 ft. 5 in. Grooms, farm labourers, and others accustomed to the management of horses, even though not fulfilling the requisite conditions of height or age, will be enlisted on special application being made to the Adjutant General through the inspecting field officers of districts. Blacksmiths, wheelwrights, harness-makers, and carpenters may be taken from 5 ft. 6 in. The lowest height for sappers is fixed at 5 ft. 6 in., and the age is the same as for cavalry and artillery. Recruits for this corps must be men of good character, able to read and write, and have been brought up to or served an apprenticeship as carpenters and joiners, cabinetmakers, stonemasons, builders, bricklayers, blacksmiths, millwrights, wheelers, coopers, painters and glaziers, and plumbers. None but good artificers must be taken, and their qualifications must be ascertained by actual trial in the trades to which they profess to have been brought up. Men of other trades required only in limited numbers will be enlisted on special application being made to the Adjutant-General. Drivers for the Engineers will be taken from 5 ft. 4 in. to 5 ft. 6 in., but there are only two troops in the Engineers in which drivers are employed, and vacancies seldom occur. The standard for the Military Train is 5 ft. 3 in. to 5 ft. 6 in., and for the infantry of the Line and the departmental corps 5 ft. 5 in. and upwards. At least twenty-four hours and a half must elapse between enlistment and attestation, and the period is not to exceed four days. Special directions are given to the superintending officers with respect to the mode of measuring the chests of recruits. Great care is to be taken in selecting men for the recruiting service, only sergeants and corporals of artillery and cavalry, and sergeants of infantry being eligible. No non-commissioned officers engaged in recruiting are to leave their stations for the purpose of attending fairs or on any other pretence, without the express authority, in writing, of their superintending officers. Special application must be made to the Adjutant-General with respect to the enlistment of foreigners and boys. Militiamen are not to be enlisted in the Line without having procured from their commanding officers the usual “conditional discharge certificate.” No one under the rank of a field officer is competent to approve of a recruit. The decision of an inspecting officer is not to be questioned except on very special grounds, but if a recruit is rejected for any cause showing culpable inattention on the part of the recruiting officer he is to be sent back to the place from which he came, and all expenses are to fall on the officer. In the case of recruits objected to from surgical or medical causes the matter is to be referred to a medical board for their report. The regulations for the re-engagement and re-enlistment of soldiers require that before re-enlistment men must produce the parchment certificates of discharge and character. Recruiters are not to re-engage men at the expiration of their first period of limited service, but are to direct them to the head-quarters of the district. Weekly, monthly, and quarterly returns of recruits are to be furnished to the Adjutant-General,

**OPERA AND CONCERTS.**

THE sensation made last season by Mdme. Maria Vilda's *Norma* was a sufficient reason why Bellini's opera should be selected for the opening performance at the Royal Italian Opera. Although Mdme. Vilda has come back to us without any very striking improvement as regards either vocal or histrionic power, her magnificent organ and fine physique will always secure for her a large share of popular favour, more especially in parts such as those she has essayed since her first appearance caused so great an excitement. Of her performance on this occasion there is not much to be said that is new, simply because it differed but little from that of last season. Her delivery of the “Casta Diva” was marked by the high degree of executive ability and good taste she has always brought to it; while in the scene with Pollio, after the discovery of his intrigues with Adalgisa, she rendered the famous passage, beginning “Ah! non tremate, O perfido,” with wonderful emphasis and energy. Mdme. Vilda was several times heartily applauded, and once or twice recalled to be congratulated on the success of her efforts. Upon the merits of her performance we need not enlarge, since they must be perfectly familiar to the reader. Signor Naudin was again Pollio. He brings to his impersonation of the faithless Roman a large share of intelligence and artistic skill, which in a great degree atone for whatever deficiency of natural gifts he may labour under. For the Oroveso of Signor Attri we have nothing but words of commendation. He looks the part well, and sings with judgment and taste. The chorus was fairly effective throughout and the orchestra perfect, as usual. On Thursday night “Faust” was presented, with Lucca, Mario, and Petit (the new baritone) in the principal characters.

On the very eve of the commencement of the opera season, the interesting series of concerts directed by Mr. Arthur Chappell comes to a close. The “Monday Populars” wish, perhaps, for no divided allegiance. However that may be, we are now to have no more of them for some considerable time to come; and the Monday evenings of our overcrowded musical season will be either marked solely by the performances at the Royal Italian Opera (which are now to take place regularly four times a week), or will be divided, as regards real interest, between the establishment just named and the Philharmonic Society. The “Monday Popular” season, after several more or less successful experiments with Schumann, and one comparative failure with Brahms, Schumann's laborious and uninteresting pupil, has ended with a series of triumphs for that great musical poet Schubert. Schubert's otte is certainly the most successful instrumental piece on a large scale that Mr. Chappell has yet brought forward. The reasons for the exceptional success of this work (to which we had sufficient testimony in the applause bestowed upon it by the unusually large audience at the concert of Saturday morning last) are to be found in the marvellously-beautiful and thoroughly Schubert-like character of the melodies, and in the fact that the work is an otte, and not a quartet—that is to say, that the fatiguing monotony of the stringed instruments is relieved by the employment of instruments in wood and brass. The simple, beautiful, romantic melody of the first movement in Schubert's otte, if it will not be solely remembered, will at least be endeared to the memory of all who have heard it by the charming effect with which it is reproduced at the close of the movement on the horn. It is not only to instrumental sonority, however, nor to melody, but to sonority, melody, and harmony combined, that Schubert's otte owes the remarkable success that it has obtained at Mr. Chappell's concerts. Another novelty by this composer is the lovely sonata in G. This work was played last week by Mdme. Arabella Goddard with all the sentiment and grace so characteristic of her style, and equally characteristic of the style of Schubert, who to Mdme. Goddard must be a thoroughly sympathetic composer. The last Popular Concert of the season took place on Monday evening, when the triple concerto by Sebastian Bach was performed in admirable style by Mdme. Arabella Goddard, Mdme. Schumann, and Mr. Charles Hallé. We must not forget to mention that the concert of last Saturday derived especial interest from Mr. Charles Hallé's playing of Mendelssohn's capriccio in E. This piece, most brilliantly performed, was encored, upon which Mr. Hallé substituted for it the well-known “Spring Song” from the “Lieder ohne Wörter.”

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**THE STRIKE OF AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS IN BUCKS.**—The success of the agricultural labourers at Gawcott, in Bucks, in their strike for an increase of wages from 9s. and 10s. to 11s. and 12s. per week seems to have raised some feeling of discontent amongst those of other parts of the county, and a movement for a similar increase has taken place at Aston Abbotts, Wing, Wingrave, Rowsham, Weedon, Whitchurch, and Berton, respectful representations having been made by the labourers to their employers of the insufficiency of their remuneration. The farmers, no doubt, fearing the inconvenience which such a strike as that at Gawcott would produce, have, in reply to the request, augmented the wages of their labourers 1s., and in some instances 2s., per week, and a few have promised a further advance of another 1s. per week if the weather continues favourable for agricultural operations. A few, however, stand out against the desires of their men. The contributions to the Gawcott strike fund have been rapidly augmented. Another “deal out” therefrom to the labourers was made on Saturday, and the men have been enabled to stand out, and will do for some time to come, according to the statements of Mr. Biss, one of the secretaries, who says that he thinks the committee have received sufficient assistance to enable them to meet all demands likely to be made upon them. Meanwhile, the emigration of agricultural labourers from Gawcott to other parts of the country is progressing, nearly a dozen more having been transferred, free of cost, to places where they are now receiving at the rate of 15s. and 16s. per week for their labour. Respecting the general demeanour of the men still out on strike, it is as respects to the employers of labour as it was last week, and anything likely to be annoying to the latter, in the shape of processioning, &c., is strictly avoided. Expressions of sympathy with the men are daily being received by the secretaries. The committee express their determination to continue their efforts, and even to widen their sphere of operation, if necessary, so as to put the position of the agricultural labourers throughout the country on a higher level.

**ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.**—On Thursday a meeting of this institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Earl Percy, president, in the chair. Richard Lewis, Esq., the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, rewards amounting to £276 were voted to pay the expenses of the life-boats of the institution at Theddlethorpe, Donna Nook, Fowey, St. Ives, Selsey, Drogheda, Tramore, Syrella, Wexford, Appleford, Palling, Brooke, Poolbeg, Penzance, Plymouth, Howth, Sutton, Pembrey, Aberystwith, and Cromer, for noble services in saving, during the heavy gales of the past month, the crews of the following wrecked vessels:—Barque Centurion, eighteen; schooner Squire, of Yarmouth, four; schooner Devonia, of Padstow, five; schooner Mary Lewis, of Aberystwith, five; brigantine Sarah Ann, of Jersey, six; schooner Mary, of Dublin, three; barque Wild Horse, of Windsor, N.S., ten; barque Loretto, of Liverpool, assisted to save vessel and crew, fourteen; brig Harmony, of Bideford, three; and the French schooner La Prudence, six. It was also reported that the Caistor life-boat was the means of assisting to take safely into port the Prussian schooner Louise and her crew of seven men, and that the Holyhead life-boat had also brought ashore fourteen men from the Austrian schooner Nicolo. Total lives saved by the life-boats during the late storms, ninety-five. Various other rewards were also granted to the crews of different shore-boats for saving life from shipwreck. It was reported that his Majesty the King of Denmark had granted 200 rix dollars to the crew of the Ramsgate life-boat, in addition to what the Board of Trade had previously given them, for the noble services which they rendered to the crew of the Danish barque Aurora Borealis on Jan. 6 last. Her Majesty the Queen had sent her annual subscription of £50 to the institution, and the same was gratefully acknowledged. It was reported that the life-boat which the society had sent to the Paris Exhibition had attracted the special attention of the Emperor and Empress of the French. New life-boats were about to be sent by the institution to Falmouth, Exmouth, and New Brighton. The cost of the life-boat for Falmouth had been generously contributed by the city and county of Gloucester. Messrs. Rothschild had liberally increased their annual subscription to the institution to £10 10s. An effort was being made by the ladies in Edinburgh to raise a sufficient sum to meet the annual expense of the Edinburgh working men's life-boat, stationed at Port Logan. Payments amounting to £2200 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. The plan of safety fishing-boats of the institution was exciting considerable interest, and two of the boats, which had been tested on the coast of Scotland, had given great satisfaction. A report was read from Captain David Robertson, R.N., the assistant inspector of life-boats of the institution, on his recent visits to its stations on the coasts of Norfolk and Suffolk. The proceeding then terminated.



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